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## Wireless Telegraphy.

By John Dennis.

It is very natural that practical electrical workers, whose interests are so closely connected with matters pertaining to the art, should be on the alert to ascertain the extent to which new theories can be reduced to practice. Particularly is this true in the signalling branch of the art, in which such a large proportion of workers are engaged.

We have all of us, I fancy, had our curiosity raised regarding the system of wireless telegraphy, of which so much has been written during the past two years. This interest is not unwarranted, in view, not only of what some of its most enthusiastic disciples have claimed, but also in view of that which has actually been accomplished. Some of these dreams—notably the scheme by which, through the use of wireless telegraphy, hostile fleets still below the horizon were to be destroyed—have been rudely dissipated. Others will share the same fate, until the capabilities and limitations of the system have been fairly and satisfactorily formulated.

It is not the intention, in this article, to enter into a technical description of the method by which signalling between points by means of electricity without connecting wires is accomplished. Every practical electrician is now familiar with the transmitter and receiver, with its more or less reliable coherer. At the same time, in view of the wildly extravagant claims made in the lay press, and the dreams indulged in by some of the more enthusiastic experimenters, it may be well to refer to some of the actual results, as detailed by Marconi, the inventor of the method upon which all recent experiments have been based.

The most notable achievement yet

claimed by Signor Marconi is the transmission of signals across the English Channel for the transmitter and receiver, being separated by a distance of thirty-four miles. The report of the actual results achieved is not yet at hand, but it is no more than fair that the accomplished Italian electrician should be credited with all the success which is implied in the transmission of signals from England to the Continent without utilizing a submarine cable. That the results were not such as to warrant immediately placing the trans-channel cables out of commission is apparent from the importance placed upon quasi-success over a distance which is not great, as cables and telegraph lines go.

Signor Marconi has recently given a general resume of his experience with his wireless signalling system, which in itself suggests caution in deciding that the old method of communication is doomed at once to become obsolete. Marconi's description of communicating from Osborne House, on the Isle of Wight, with the Prince of Wales on the royal yacht in Cowes bay, forms very pleasant reading. The staff supporting the vertical conductor at Osborne House was 100 feet high and the conductor on the yacht was suspended from the main mast at the height of 83 feet from the deck. At each station an induction coil giving a 10-inch spark was used for transmitting the waves, the yacht being moored one and three-quarters miles from Osborne House. A hill intervened between the stations. About one hundred and fifty messages were successfully transmitted over this mile and three-quarters of distance. One message was sent by the Queen to the Prince of Wales on the yacht when the vessel was nearly eight miles distant. This distance of eight miles seems to have been the maximum during this

series of interesting experiments at the Isle of Wight.

Another interesting experiment detailed by Signor Marconi in his paper in the current number of "Electricity" was made in December last, between the South Foreland Lighthouse and several light-ships, the farthest of which was twelve miles distant. Signor Marconi reports that the signals were transmitted between the lighthouse and the several vessels without difficulty, even during the prevalence of violent storms. As at Osborne House, ten-inch spark induction coils, energized by a battery of dry cells, giving about eight amperes and fourteen volts were used. The inventor makes the special claim for merit in the Foreland Lighthouse experiments that the signaling system stood up under storms which rendered ordinary land wires useless. It is understood that, in the transmissions from South Foreland to a point thirty-four miles distant on the French coast, the vertical conductors were suspended from a greater height than when the smaller distance was to be traversed by the electric waves.

It is stated that the system of wireless telegraphy is now being utilized by the Italian navy at various points along the coasts, distances of nineteen miles being covered in some instances.

A dispatch from Washington, just as the Worker goes to press, announces that the experiments which were to be made between Fort Meyer, Va., and Washington, were postponed. Instead, laboratory experiments were made to ascertain the effect of intervening pillars on the Hertzian waves. The distance from Fort Meyer to the office of the Signal Corps is about two miles, over the Potomac river. It will thus be seen that the assumption that the system has not reached a practical stage

for long-distance transmission would seem to be fully warranted.

The laboratory experiments reported as made by the Signal Corps in the corridors, on the 10th instant, were made in this city by Professor A. L. Arey, of the Free Academy, at least eighteen months ago.

Within the past few days it has been stated that it has been found possible to utilize the telephone in connection with the Marconi process for limited distances; but the experiment has not reached a greatly advanced stage. Logically, its advance in the matter of distance traversed will not differ greatly from that achieved by the telegraphic apparatus.

In view of the extent to which wireless telegraphy—divested of its purely laboratory features and reduced to practice—has advanced as a practical industry during the two years and more during which it has been exploited by Signor Marconi and those who have worked his system, what will be the probable result, from an economic point of view? This, it seems to me, is the standpoint from which this whole wireless transmission business should be viewed by practical electrical workers. Will it result in such a revolution as will unsettle conditions, destroy present values and work havoc in the important industry of electrical signalling; or will it, on the other hand, be limited closely to laboratory conditions?

That these questions concern greatly the thousands of artisans who are, in one way and another, intimately associated with the industry, goes without saying. If, as some of the more optimistic disciples of Marconi affect to believe, space will be annihilated and wires for transmission become obsolete, then really many now profitably engaged would be obliged to seek other fields of employment. If the time shall come when all that is necessary to give us the news from the Philippines is to suspend some wires at Manila and turn the current on to a big induction coil to enable the message to be transferred to New York, then, indeed, would the outlook be shady. It would equal claims the apostle of telegraphy, who proposed to stand on a peak of the Rocky Mountains, and by means of thought-transmission, communicate with any portion of the wide, wide world.

Seriously: it is not unlikely that the distance over which the Hertzian waves may be controlled will be augmented to an extent not greatly exceeding that now achieved. But that wireless telegraphy or wireless transmission of telephone messages will presently assume sufficient practical importance to disturb present industrial conditions, is not evidenced by anything which has yet transpired. So far as known, the transmission, under the most favorable conditions, at less than eight miles, was only fifteen short words per

minute; a speed which will be far too much restricted for the requirements of the twentieth century.

When the telephone was first invented it was predicted that the telegraph transmitter and sounder would soon be consigned to the scrap heap, and that the places which knew the telegraph operator would know him no more forever; but he is yet with us, and there is no evidence that the tribe will soon become extinct. On the other hand, the invention of the telephone has increased opportunities for employment in many ways.

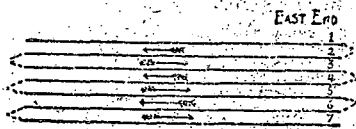
It is scarcely likely that even the most recent and successful experiments in wireless telegraphy will cause copper plants to close down, or cause a panic in telegraph or telephone securities. On general principles there is room for any and all improvements on electrical lines, and to no class of people do these improvements mean more than to the intelligent, skilled electrical worker.

### QUESTION BOX.

Brooklyn, N. Y., March 21, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

In reply to Bro. Low F. Sutton's conundrum in March issue, I figure that a man would have to cross the bridge three times each way, thus paying thirty cents fare, as follows: Start from east end, connect two wires together, cross bridge and test out; mark one wire No. 1, other No. 2; connect No. 2 with another, return to east end, disconnect the first two wires, the one ringing with No. 3, will be No. 2; you then have Nos. 1, 2 and 3. Test out balance the same way.



Yours respectfully,

JOHN C. F. PRIEST.

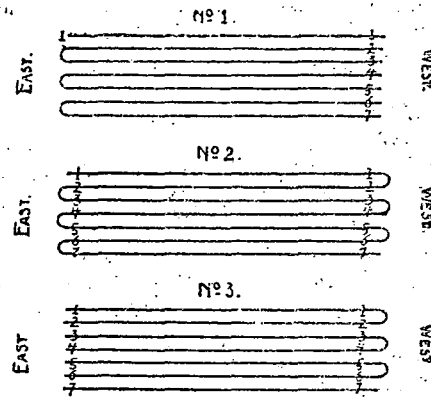
L. U. No. 12.

St. Joseph, Mo., March 26, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

This is in answer to Bro. Lew T. Sutton's question in the last Worker, as to how much bridge fare is required to test out and tag a submarine cable, using a magneto bell, fare being five cents each way. I suppose you have many answers to this question, as there are several ways of doing it. By the following diagrams it will be seen that this can be done with ten cents for bridge fare, and leave the cable clear and free from ground. Say you start at east end of bridge. First of all you test for crosses and ground. If you find wires clear, you then tag any wire No. 1; then connect the remaining wires in pairs as shown in diagram No. 1. Now you take your magneto bell and cross the bridge.

Now you are at the west end of the cable. By testing you will find that you have one open wire, which you may know is tagged No. 1 at the east end, so you just tag it No. 1 at this west end; then commence with any wire and tag it No. 2; the one that rings with it tag No. 3; then take any one of the other wires and tag it No. 4; the



J. T. MOTTER.

one that rings with it, tag No. 5; then take any one of the remaining wires and tag it No. 6; the one that rings with it tag No. 7. Now you have the wires all tagged at this west end. Now you will connect wire No. 2 with No. 1, No. 4 with No. 3, No. 6 with No. 5, as shown in diagram No. 2. Now you are done with the west end of the cable. Wires being tagged and connected as in diagram No. 2, you take your magneto bell and pliers and go back to the east end. Now at this end you have No. 1 already tagged, so you know which wire is No. 1. Now you must use some care that you do not get lost, for you must disconnect the wires at this end, and you must keep track of them so as to know which wires were connected together. Now, having disconnected the wires, you test to find the one that rings with No. 1, which you will know is No. 2, and tag it so. Now the wire that was connected with No. 2 is No. 3, and the wire that rings with No. 3 is No. 4, and the wire that was connected with No. 4 is No. 5, and the wire that rings with No. 5 is No. 6, and the wire that was connected with No. 6 is No. 7. Now your work is done and you leave the cable as shown in diagram No. 3, tagged at both ends and free from ground. You have crossed the bridge once and returned, which has cost 10 cents for bridge fare. As you will see, this method will answer with any number of wires in a cable.

Respectfully,

JAS. T. MOTTER,

Local No. 40.

Sacramento, Cal., April 1, 1899.

In answer to a query from No. 1 regarding method of testing 7-wire cable, will say, it can be done with 10 cents bridge fare. Beginning at the east end, connect three of the wires together, which we will call group 3; then connect two wires together

and call it group 2. Ground one of the wires and leave the last open. Go to the west end with magneto and find the three wires which ring together; tag them 1, 2, 3. Next find the two wires which were connected and tag them 4 and 5. The ground wire will be No. 6 and the open wire No. 7. Connect No. 1 with No. 4; connect No. 2 with No. 7. Return to east end, tie the groups (with a string for instance) then cut connections apart. The wire formerly left open is No. 7, which will ring with one out of group three; tag it No. 2. A wire in group 2 will ring with group 3; tag them 4 and 1 respectively. The other wire in group 2 was tagged No. 5, and the open wire in group 3 is No. 3; No. 6 is the ground wire.

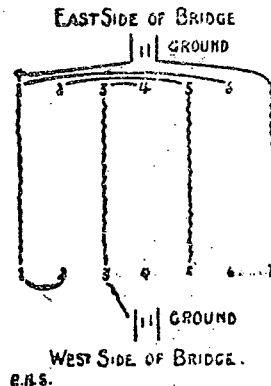
You have the seven wires tagged at each end with one trip each way at a cost of 10 cents. Will go the brother one better by stating that any number of wires can be tested on the same plan. If a lineman should get crossed up with broken primary leads as given he would probably (if he lived), study up a little about step-up transformers.

C. V. SCHNEIDER,

Press Secretary.

A man takes a magneto bell and 14 tags, which consist of two No. 1, two No. 2, two No. 3, two No. 4, two No. 5, two No. 6, two No. 7. He first grounds and tags wire on the east end of bridge, and then goes over to the west end of bridge, which makes one trip, or 5 cents car fare. He then tests his cable through a ground until he finds the wire he has tagged No. 1 on the east side, and when he finds same he places a No. 1 tag on it. He then connects No. 1 wire, which he already tagged, to another wire, and also tags this other wire No. 2; he also takes another wire and tags it No. 3 and grounds same; he then takes his magneto bells and tags and returns to east end of bridge, which makes two trips, or 10 cents. He then takes the ground off No. 1 wire and tests back as a short circuit through the wire he has marked No. 2 until he finds No. 2, which he then tags; he then tests through a ground and finds No. 3 wire, which he also tags. Now he has Nos. 1, 2 and 3 wires tagged on both sides of bridge; he then connects No. 1 wire together with another wire, which he tags No. 6; he also connects No. 2 wire with another, which he tags No. 2; he also connects No. 3 wire with another, which he tags No. 4, and also grounds and tags the remaining wire No. 7. He then returns to the west side of the bridge, which makes three trips, 15 cents, and takes the ground off No. 3 wire, and also disconnects No. 1 and No. 2 wires; he then rings through his No. 1 wire until he finds the one he has tagged No. 6 on the east end, which he then tags No. 6; he then rings through his No. 2 wire until he

finds the wire he has tagged No. 5 on the east side, and then tags it No. 5; he then rings through his No. 3 wire until he has found the wire he has tagged No. 4 on the east side, and then tags same No. 4. He then has one wire left, which he rings



through a ground and finds to be the one he has tagged No. 7 and grounds on the east side, which he now tags No. 7, which completes the work on the west side of bridge. He now returns to the east side of bridge, which makes four trips, or 20 cents car fare, and disconnects all wires that he has connected together, and also takes the ground off No. 7 wire, which completes his work.

Hoping this is as low a figure on car fare as you will get, I remain,

Faternally yours,

E. N. SCHAUSTEN,

Toledo, O.

Editor Electrical Worker:

In answer to Bro. Sutton's question which appeared in last month's Worker, I submit the following explanation:

On reaching the end of the cable on the east side of the river with my magneto and fourteen tags, two of each up to seven, I first test the cable and commonly would find all wires clear; then I twist two together and then three more, leaving two loose. I now cross the river to the opposite end of the cable and, on finding the two wires that I twisted together, I tag them 1 and 2. Then I test for the three that are connected together and tag them 3, 4 and 5; the remaining two I tag 6 and 7. The tagging being done at the west end, I take a diagram of the present situation and return across the river. While the average cool-headed lineman would not require a diagram, I advise a lover to take one, as in crossing the water his thoughts may stray into somebody's kitchen, factory or dress-making shop. Here you must excuse me for saying I take a diagram, for although I have been there, I have neither suffered a relapse or had another serious attack. Finding myself again at the east end of the cable I test the loose wires and, on finding the one that is still free from all others, I tag it 7, corresponding with the

opposite end; the other loose wire I tag 6. Then opening the bunch of three wires I test with No. 6 and, on finding the wire connected with it, I tag it 5. Now I test for the free wire and tag it 4; the other wire must be 3. Still I must open the two wires and, when I have found the free one, I tag it 1, while the other which remains connected with 3 at the opposite end I tag 2. The tagging is now complete, and, having paid only two five-cent fares across the river, you see the necessary expense connected with the work is only ten cents, which I believe is the required answer.

I might here state that a cable containing any number of wires above two can be correctly tagged in a like manner. Only two precautions are necessary. First, do not connect together at the west end any two wires that you have already connected together at the east end. Second, avoid all mistakes. Should anyone not understand this work, let him draw seven lines on a piece of paper, then connect the lines and set down the numbers on the lines as he reads the above explanation.

Faternally yours,

W. J. WALES,

Box 555, Omaha.

Buffalo, N. Y., March 24, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

I noticed in the March number of the Worker a conundrum, or a problem of testing a 7-wire cable. Now, I do not consider myself much of a guesser, but after a few moments thought I think I can tag both ends of this cable ready for connections for the sum of ten cents bridge fare. The accompanying sketches will show the manner in which I proceed to solve the problem, although I would like to say, most of the cables which have come under my notice have had a core wire, which can be determined at either end.

The first thing I should do would be to tag each wire from No. 1 to No. 7, making the core wire No. 7, as shown in Fig. 1, being located on west end of cable. Fig. 2 shows where I connect No. 2 to No. 1 or core, then connect No. 3 to No. 4; then ground No. 5, leaving 6 and 7 alone. Then I would proceed to make a tap across the bridge, paying a nickel or five pennies if I had it. Arriving on east end, Fig. 3, I should connect one terminal of magneto bell to core wire and test for a metallic circuit; when the bell responded, I would be pretty sure to have hold of wire No. 2 and tag it as such. Then I would test for another metallic circuit. When found, it would prove to me that I had found Nos. 3 and 4, but which was which I could not tell until later. although I would place tags on them as Nos. 3 and 4. Now I would connect one terminal of magneto to the earth and feel around until I got a ring, which would tell me that I had No. 5; put

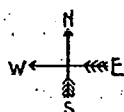


Fig. 1.

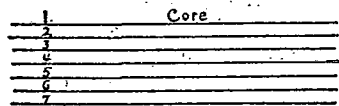


Fig. 2.

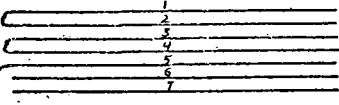


Fig. 3.

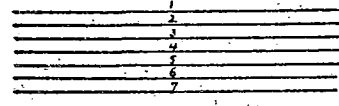


Fig. 4.

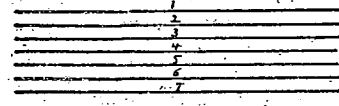
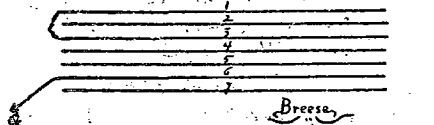


Fig. 5.



a tag on him. Then I would have two wires, Nos. 6 and 7, unknown, and Nos. 3 and 4 uncertain, remaining on the same end of cable, Fig. No. 4. I would connect No. 3 to No. 1 or core wire, also connect No. 6 to earth. So far so good. I am ready to give up another five cents, which I have got, for I met a friend over on the east end. A pleasant walk across the bridge and a quiet smoke we proceed to look over Fig. 5. Connect magneto to No. 1, open the loop on Nos. 3 and 4, find No. 3 over No. 1, which straightens this and makes the other wire of the loop No. 4.

Next move, connect magneto to earth and feel for No. 6, which must show up. Now we have only one wire left, and if any one should ask me what number it was, I would say 7. I forgot to say while I was over on the east side what I did with No. 7. All I had to do was to put tag No. 7 on it.

I would like to say to Bro. Sutton, I have done you a very cheap job; but if you want the actual work performed, I would have to charge a little more for incidentals.

Fraternally yours,

WM. A. BREESE,

Local No. 41.

St. Joseph Mo., March 22, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Dear Sir:—A little question for the box if you please.

Where does the crosshead of an engine travel the fastest, going towards the cylinder or going towards the crank-pin? Now,

don't all speak at once, and don't all neglect to speak.

Fraternally yours,

ED. MCCARTHY,

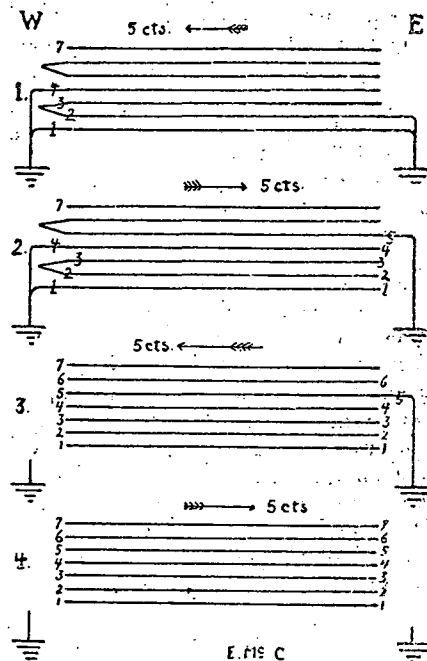
Local 40.

Brothers, I notice with regret that the railway problem offered by Bro. P. C. Fish, in the February Question Box, was not answered. There is no use asking questions if we all depend on the other fellow to answer them. I am in favor of the Question Box, and believe every member should make an effort to answer the questions; comparisons can then be made of the way different men would do the same piece of work. Acting on this theory, I shall endeavor to give my version of some of the questions found in the box for March.

First, Bro. P. C. Fish asks, "Will a line-man working with the wires at the top arm on pole A be liable to receive a dangerous shock?" I believe that most assuredly he would, for the situation stands thus: Two converters are connected in multiple, both primary and secondary; now, if the primary is broken, as shown in diagram, it leaves the converter on pole B in working order, and the secondaries of this converter being connected in parallel with the secondaries of the converter on pole A, thereby energizing the converter, causing it to act as a step-up transformer, thereby making the broken primary wires dangerous to handle.

I will now proceed to bump up against Bro. L. T. Sutton's conundrum. I start at the east side of the river. I am working alone. I first ground two wires. I now dig up five cents and cross the bridge and test for my two grounds. I select one of these wires and tag it with No. 1 tag and ground it—note figure in diagram. I now take the other wire and tag it No. 2. I now take No. 2 and, selecting another wire, twist them together and tag this third wire No. 3. I now select another wire and ground it and tag it No. 4. I now have three wires left. I select two of them and twist them together, and now have one wire left and I tag it No. 7. I must now return to the east side of the river, dropping another five cents to the bridge man. Reaching the east side, I disconnect the two wires I had grounded. I now test these for a ground, the one showing a ground I know to be No. 1, the one clear I know to be No. 2. I now take No. 2 as one side and test for No. 3. The wire ringing in circuit with No. 2 I know to be No. 3. I take the ground for one side and test the unmarked wires for No. 4. Finding it, I proceed to test for the two wires I twisted together on the west side. Finding them, I ground one of them and mark it No. 5, and the other one No. 6. The situation now stands as in Fig. 2 of diagram. Reaching the west side, another beer gone, I remove the grounds and dis-

connect the wires twisted together and test for ground; finding it, I mark this wire No. 5. Referring to my note-book to



avoid mistakes, I now know No. 6, as it was connected to No. 5. I now have but one wire left and it must be No. 7, so it is O. K. I now straighten everything up on this side and, being unable to swim, I drop another nick in the slot and return to the east side, remove the ground on No. 5 wire, tag No. 7, and my job is complete. I am 20 cents out for bridge fare, having crossed the bridge four times.

Hoping some brother will offer some shorter method of doing this job, I remain,

Fraternally yours,

ED. MCCARTHY.

St. Joseph, Mo., April 2, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Dear Sir—Since sending in my answer to Bro. Sutton's conundrum I have been looking it over, and noticed that he does not say whether the cable should be left clear of grounds and connections. Assuming that it makes no difference, I will give my method of testing it out with one trip across and back. I start at the east end and, selecting two wires, I ground them; selecting two more wires, I twist them together. I now proceed to the west end and test for my grounded wires. Selecting one of them, I tag it No. 1 and ground it; I now tag the other No. 2. I now test for the two wires I twisted together; selecting one of them, I tag it No. 3 and ground it; I tag the other one No. 4. I now take No. 4 and connect it to one of the untagged wires and tag this wire No. 5. I now take another untagged wire and connect it with No. 2; I tag this wire No. 6. I now have one untagged wire; I tag it No. 7. I now recross the bridge; taking

the two wires I had grounded I test them for a ground. Finding it, I know this wire to be No. 7. I now tag the other No. 2. Taking No. 2 for one side, I test for No. 6; finding it, I now take the two wires I had twisted together; I test them for a ground. Finding it, I know this wire to be No. 3 and the other to be No. 4. I now take No. 4 for one side and test for No. 5; finding it, I now have but one wire untagged, and this must be No. 7. Draw yourself a diagram and trace this out as suggested, and see if I am right. ED MCCARTHY,

Local 40.

What should be the insulation resistance, as required by the National Board of Fire Underwriters, of a complete installation (capacity 1,500 amperes, all cut-outs and safety devices in place), between conductors and between all conductors and the ground?

Answer, 13,333  $\frac{1}{3}$  ohms.

One-half this amount or 6,666  $\frac{2}{3}$  ohms would be correct if lamp sockets, receptacles and electroliers, &c., were in place.

The rule for obtaining this result is as follows: Resistance equals twenty million divided by the amperes ( $R = \frac{20,000,000}{C}$ )

Where or how the quantity 20,000,000 is obtained is unknown to the writer. Any information regarding the same will be appreciated. P. C. FISH.

#### SOME ADVANTAGES OF THE THREE-WIRE SYSTEM.

St. Louis, March 10, 1899.

Although there are other advantages, the primary object of the 3-wire system is the saving of copper (cost of conductors). How and in what proportion, in comparison to the 2-wire system, this is accomplished, the following sample example with solutions will illustrate:

EXAMPLE—It is desired to transmit 10,000 watts (in the form of 100-100 volt-one ampere lamps) a distance of 250 feet, at a loss in the line of 500 watts. What will be the size and weight of wire with the 2-wire and 3-wire systems respectively?

Rule 1. Volts  $\times$  amperes = watts (w.)

Rule 2. Watts  $\div$  volts = amperes (a.)

Rule 3. Watts  $\div$  amperes = volts (v.)

To find the size of wire the following simple formula is used and recommended, because it applies equally well to all voltages. Circular Mills equals current multiplied by twice the distance, multiplied by 10.5 (resistance of 1 foot copper wire 1 mill in diameter) and divided by the drop in volts, generally expressed thus  $\div$

$$C. M. = \frac{C \times 2 \text{ dis.} \times 10.5}{\text{Drop in Volts.}}$$

100 amperes, representing 10,000 watts, the voltage would necessarily be (Rule 3) 100; 100 volts, representing 10,000 watts, the amperes would necessarily be (Rule 2)

100. Also, 100 amperes at a pressure of 100 volts would (Rule 1) represent 10,000 watts.

If 500 watts is the energy lost in transmission, according to Rule 3, 5 volts will represent the line loss. Two-wire system according to the formula (c),  $100 \times (2 \text{ dis.}) 500 \times 10.5 \div (\text{v. loss}) 5 = (\text{C. M.}) 105,000$ . This according to a reference table, is found to be a No. 0 B. & S. gauge wire. The weight of 500 feet (total length of wire in circuit) of No. 0 copper wire is approximately 160 lbs.

Three-wire system (with load equally divided on each side of the neutral) each of the three conductors same size.

In the 3-wire system, as the voltage is double that of the lamps, the lamps are arranged practically 2 in series, thereby taking one-half the amount of current necessary in the 2-wire system.

If we lose, as before, 500 watts in transmission, according to rule 3, 10 volts will represent the line loss.

Three-wire system, according to the formula (c)  $50 \times (2 \text{ dis.}) 500 \times 10.5 \div (\text{v. loss}) 10 = (\text{C. M.}) 26,250 = \text{No. 6 wire}$ . The weight of 750 feet (total length of the three conductors) of No. 6 wire, is approximately 60 lbs.

From this it will be seen that 60 lbs of copper with the 3-wire system will carry, to the same distance, the same amount of electrical energy with the same energy loss that 160 lbs. of copper will carry under same conditions with the 2-wire system.

Three-eighths the amount of copper is used in the 3-wire system as is used in the 2-wire system in the example as stated. Under conditions where the neutral or middle wire can be smaller than either of the two outside wires, a still greater saving in the cost of conductors may be made. Where the neutral or middle wire is required to be double the size of the two outside wires, a saving over the 2-wire system of  $\frac{1}{2}$  in the weight of conductors is attained.

Fraternally yours,

P. C. FISH.

#### From "Old Crip."

Raton, N. Mexico, April 5th, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

The fifth is here again and it is time to send in a few words to our journal. It is also time to pay my house-rent, but as I have no "dough," I guess it would be cheaper to move. Glad to see Local No. 4 in line again, as well as several others that have seemingly been lost. The Worker is becoming more and more interesting; there seems to be more interest taken by the press secretaries in their letters, and then the question-box is proving a success. Well brothers, I am still waiting to get my "New Year's Box," and can assure you I shall be proud to receive

it, for I surely need some money pretty badly.

We are still having plenty of snow and cold weather here in the mountains. There is considerable talk of a telephone exchange here this spring, but I don't count much on the enterprise until I see them stringing the wires. I presume line-work will be good this year in Texas, as the Postal and the Southwestern are both on the slate for a good deal of extension work.

Well, I will cut it short for want of news. Will probably have more next month.

With best wishes to every member, I am, fraternally,

ROBERT G. WRIGHT.

#### From a Hayseed.

Hayseedville, Mo., March 26, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

As Local No. 2, of K. C., Mo., was not heard from in month of March issue of your valuable journal, we, as members of the same, employed by the Mo. & Kan. Tel. Co., in the country district, wish to let the brothers of the city of said local know that we are not asleep. We were up to the meeting last Wednesday and had a good time. There are seven of us employed in this gang, and we are having a very agreeable time among ourselves. We hope to hear from some other States that are in the same vocation throughout the country districts.

The Mo. & Kan. Tel. Co. have got a gang in Kansas, and they are going to cut into the circuit next meeting night, but I don't think we can possibly go up, as we are too far in the country, to see them get the proper light. You may add that linemen who come this way need not keep away from K. C. to avoid a union, and go to the hayseeds in the country, for they will get the same reception out here as in the city; if not, O. K.

We will not take up any more space, as we wish to hear from others. So we will now ring off.

Yours in the fraternity,

"HAYSEED LINEMEN,"

Local No. 2, K. C., Mo.

#### From a Member of No. 72.

Hot Springs, April 7, 1899.

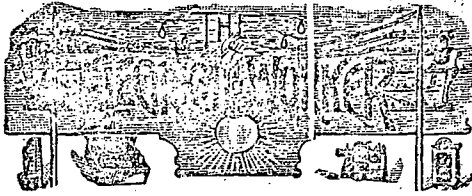
Editor Electrical Worker:

I pencil these few lines and ask you to be so kind as to publish them. Give my thanks to all brothers of No. 72, of Waco, Texas, for the kind treatment I received from them while in that beautiful city, and to Brother E. P. McBroom, for his kind assistance to me and to my old partner, John W. Kane, who is still in Waco, Tex.

I met three old scabs here who were in the St. Louis strike against No. 3. They are: Jack McCune, Jim Carr and Rube Smith, all of Missouri-Edison Co. So I will close with respects to you.

Yours truly,

NICHOLAS BEULAH.



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ROCHESTER, N. Y., APRIL, 1899.

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**LOCAL TROUBLES.**

From the present indications the long looked for prosperity has reached us at last. Thanks to an all-wise God and the natural course of events, factories that have been idle for a long time are now scenes of activity, men who have been idle are now working and have a chance to pay the old standing debts to the butcher and baker. The electrical industry is booming, there is a demand for men; naturally all men want the highest scale obtainable and should have what is paid to mechanics in other trades and stand ready to demand it, but do not let us get hot headed. Let us do business as it should be done, in a conservative way. The constitution must be lived up to. Study it well, know what you are doing; then there will be no trouble. The Executive Board has an honest duty to perform and no candid man will find fault with them for doing this duty. We profit by experience. How many times organized labor has stood defeat through hot-headed movements, many times by unwise leaders, leaders who would throw

constitution and by-laws aside, and rush madly, wildly to sure defeat, not stopping to look the ground over carefully as the general does before entering into battle. It is a deplorable thing that these radical leaders have their followers, but let defeat come, then hear them holler. When members of locals live up to the requirements of their national body and are defeated, it is all right; the big lump has to be swallowed, and we must prepare for another attack, but some radical fellow starts to holler strike, and shows the others certain victory, why we cannot be defeated. The conservative man thinks the matter over, weighs every argument offered, takes into consideration the demand for men and if he sees the time ripe, gives due notice to the proper officers and then the battle begins. With lots of work on their hands and no men the contractors are likely to give in, but where there is a chance for them to hold off with nothing to do, then look out. Workingmen, study well the conditions, live up to your constitution, and never strike until you are forced to, but when you do strike, strike to win.

**BOND YOUR OFFICERS.**

On another page of this issue is a letter from the press secretary of Local No. 4, of New Orleans, in which he gives an account of their financial secretary absconding with a sum of money. There is the old saying that advise is cheap but if taken sometimes does good. We should always bond men who handle money. A bond is not a reflection on any man's honesty. It is business, and no honest man will ever object to a bond. Every member of a local should take an interest in the money in the treasurer's hands and see that it is judiciously handled. When the per capita is sent to the general office, have the grand secretary's receipt read off at the next meeting, and keep them on file for future reference. They may come in handy some day. And in case of a dispute will prove who is right or wrong. We are none of us infallible; we can all make mistakes.

LOCAL No. 68, of Denver, Col., has placed in the field, for the position of City Inspector of Wiring, Bro. Charles E. Hamm, and from present indications his prospects are good. Bro. Hamm is fully competent for the position, as he is a good, practical man. The municipal officials in most cities have come to the realization that the duties involved require men of this kind. Here is wishing Bro. Hamm success.

BRO. JOHN WOLF, President of Local 44, is now at Mt. Clemens, Mich., under treatment for sciatic rheumatism. We hope when he returns to Rochester again he will be fully recovered. Here is luck to you, John.

**THE ROBERT WRIGHT BOX.**

The letter from Uncle Tom should be read by every Brotherhood man, and let every man send ten cents and help make life worth living. A receipt will be sent for this just as for other matter up to now. We have received \$42.00 from the following locals:

Local 45, Buffalo, N. Y. . . . .	\$19 50
Local 37, Hartford . . . . .	7 00
Local at Erie . . . . .	5 25
Eugene Rush . . . . .	1 00
Local 41 . . . . .	9 30

Total . . . . . \$42 05

**Men Who Scabbed In St. Louis During No. 3's Strike.**

**MISSOURI-EDISON.**

*Jno. McGann.	*Frank Kelly,
*L. Baldwin,	*Dick Harris,
*Chas. Addleman,	*Harry Murphy.
*Joe Edwards,	*Frank Maher,
*Joe Aber,	*Walter Baldwin,
Geo. McLaughlin.	Harry Swarthing,
Fred Schantz,	Tom Watts,
Jack McCune.	Jim Carr,
Bill Kelly,	Tony Burke,
Lee Cassavant,	Frank Burns,
Frank Widoe,	Tim Murphy,
Jas. Murphy,	Chas. Pipes,
Rube Smith,	Del. Scott.

**BELL TELEPHONE.**

Chas. Phillips,	Bill O'Dell,
Geo. Johnson (scabby)	Noah MacLamore,
Frank Gocus,	L. Hull,
*Mike Cunningham,	Jim Breen,
*Chas. Johnson,	Fred Obermiller,
Frank Haverstraw,	Bill Gillin,
Jack Carson,	Andy Gamble,
Ed. Warrentine,	Al. Hayslip,
Bill Ogle,	John Simons,
Jno. (Baldy) Hamble	John Eiker,
Jno. (Heckery) Darrab,	Wm. Ingstrom,
Henry Casey,	*Dick Lewis,
Wm. Taben,	Perry Manion,
B. S. McCloskey,	Jno. Daré,
W. Davison,	D. Davison,
W. G. Fry (better known as Rube)	F. Burnmeister,
J. Davison,	J. Powers,
W. Cleeland.	C. Fuller,
W. Batterton,	Chas. Reynolds,
	J. Hall.

**KINLOCH TEL. CO.**

B. Albaugh,	Frank Lewin,
Ed. Holman,	Adolph Meyer,
Frank Turner,	A. Dock,
Henry Hissrich,	Ernest Dennison,
	William Stewart.

An asterisk (\*) before a name indicates that the scab was a member of the union.

**Hello, Hello, No. 60!**

Monclova, Mex., March 29, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

A poor, lonesome, lost brother of Local No. 60 would like to know if No. 60 has been changed from San Antonio? If so, please give me its present address, as I

have written each member several times, but have been unable to infuse enough excitement or something else into my letters to receive a reply to a single one of them.

It would make some of the brothers smile to hear me talk the Spanish language. I was stringing a wire in Monterey City last week, when I tried to tell one of my best "ground hogs" to pull the slack out of a wire so it would clear the street. He turned it loose just as a carriage was trying to pass under it, and it took four policemen, two soldiers and a whole crowd of citizens to untangle the poor, frightened "cabby." You would have to sight the team up with a telegraph pole to see if it moved, as they never even flinched when the wire coiled all around them.

Monerey is a beautiful little city; it has nicely-paved streets, beautiful houses, flour mills, smelters, and many other industries; it also has the best system of mule cars I have ever seen.

I would give a new hat to see the next candidate ride No. 60's new goat.

Brothers, you should get a large-sized move on yourselves, and at least get the new City Linemen of S. A. enrolled on your books, and try to establish a card system in your city. I wish Bro. McElroy would write to me.

Yours fraternally,

FRANK WALLACE.

#### AGREES WITH UNCLE TOM.

Cleveland, Ohio, April 6, 1899.

My Dear Uncle Tom:

It is with great pleasure I read your letter, and I must say I am with you soul and body; also that I have been with you these many moons, but I must say, Uncle Tom, that you must not go too much on Pingree. Pingree is all right in some things, but he is for Ping all the time, to the contrary notwithstanding.

Did you say we were slaves? Well, I might just as well acknowledge the corn now as later. You bet we are; worse a thousand times than the slave of the south. He was fed and clothed for his labor, while we labor and starve and go naked to keep the dividend up to the general manager's mark.

I have said it so many times, but I will say it again, just so long as we vote as republicans or democrats and not as workmen, just so long will we be at the mercy of the trust-maker and corporation. The one trouble, Uncle, is this: The people (I mean the workers) labor too many hours a day to have any time left to read. Half or three-fourths of our N. B. E. W. do not read the letters in the Worker, so what can you expect. Must you take each one by the neck and hold his head over the page and say, "There, read and reflect."

I have asked over a hundred of my fellow-workers, "Do you read the journal?"

and the answer is "no; I never have time." Well, if you want to know why they never have time, I'll tell you, Uncle. In all large cities there is always a prominent avenue or street where all the people walk or stroll after dark (doing the line as it's called in San Francisco, chasing, as it is named in Chicago), and I could give you a score of other names if it were necessary. I see only a few letters, Uncle, in the journal, and it speaks bad for our Press Secretaries. Every Press Secretary should be fined a dollar every time he misses a copy, and every brother should be fined for not reading the journal from cover to cover. If we workers would only vote as a body we could control the earth. Stop emigration of paupers and criminals to our shores, and keep away the wage-cutting Japanese and filthy, opium-soaked Chinese, who are eating into our vitals slowly but surely. We could stop the child labor in factory and shop. We could take the carefully guarded convict out of the prison where he makes things that ought to be made in factories by the hands of honest toil, and make the said convict build beautiful, broad stone roads from one end of the United States to the other; and we could also stop the aggregation of capital in the form of trusts where they can control our living and breathing.

I think, Uncle, the man who wrote the words of that beautiful song should have written it thus: "The land of the few and home of the slave."

It almost broke my heart, Uncle, to hear that my cousins of No. 80 were no more. Well, one by one the roses fall, but cheer up, Uncle, "cherries will soon be ripe," and we can go out and stroll through the lovely parks the city provides and the poor man is taxed for. Give my regards to all the boys and tell the P. S. of No. 10 I am glad he falls in with me in my views of Hot Stuff. The flies are bothering me and my Sunday menu will soon be ready, and I must lie me to the alcove and change my shirt and put on a cuff as my collars are not home from the laundry. I turned my socks this morning. Please write me again, uncle, and remember me as

Your dear nephew,

ANN ARKIST.

#### BOUND TO WIN.

The rapidity with which industries all over the United States are capitalizing into trusts, moves the Petaluma, Cal., Argus to remark: We are rapidly creating two classes—paupers and millionaires! We have had some object lessons of late that are calculated to open the eyes of the dupes. Only a short time since a firm, not a member of the trust, sent ten car-loads of sugar to San Francisco and sold it at a fair profit. While loading another train for the same market the "trust" noticed the railroad that it was bringing down the price of sugar by hauling for this outside

firm. Up went the freight rates to the prohibitive point and the traffic ceased. The Standard Oil Company and other trusts too numerous to mention, are doing the same. The most recent outrage was preventing the government from building the Nicaragua canal.

## OUR LOCALS.

### Local Union No. 4.

New Orleans, March 24, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

I am an entire stranger to you, yet I do not consider myself one, and as I am not the regular Press Secretary, and as this letter is of the utmost importance, we are anxious that it should be published in the April issue. We of No. 4, down in New Orleans, La., a good old town where all strangers, or in other words, all climbers, are ever welcome, have formed a local, and were beginning to make a boast that we would have as strong an organization as any in the country, when we received a shock worse than a 2500-volt current, and I suppose all know what that means. It happened thus: A man called Edward Andrews came down here and was general foreman for the People's Telephone Company. He organized No. 4, and as we thought, was a gentleman, and had the confidence of every man here; but to our sorrow, we have found that it was a case of misplaced confidence—(same old story). He drew money from the treasury, which we supposed was sent to the Grand Secretary, whereas he used it for his own ends, and then skipped the town. The amount, as near as we can make it out, reaches the sum of \$114.98. To say that the boys were "riled" would be putting it mildly. That is not all; he also got various sums of money from others about town, so I have been informed. Now, brothers who read this, you will confer a favor on No. 4 by informing the President, or any member, of his whereabouts, if you know, or if you should hereafter learn. I think it would be a good idea to have this letter read in every local which the Worker reaches. So much for Andrews. We are not knocked out because we received a foul blow; we are like the kangaroo; it will take more than that to knock us out.

Now, boys, there was lots of work during the past winter, and I think there will be this summer. Both the Cumberland and the People's Telephone Cos., Edison E. Light Co., the Western Union Tel. and Postal Tel. Cos., and a new one called the Merchants' E. Light Co., are going under ground, so prospects for the boys are very bright. We have some old-timers here with us:

President—C. D. Hatt.

Vice-President—Tim Cronin.

Rec. Sec.—Chas. Elmore.

Fin. Sec.—Jas. J. Sullivan.

Delegate—Chas. McManus.

Trustees—Al Blackford, Mike Hoy, Jas. Givan.

Foreman—Geo. Quinlan.

But as the warm weather sets in the floaters, like the swallows, begin their homeward flight.

One of our boys, Frank Swore, received a bad shock and was knocked some forty feet. He had a leg and arm broken, and was also badly burned about the face and hands. It will be some time before he is out. This happened in Dallas, Tex.

I will close, asking you to excuse me for encroaching on your time, and adding, don't forget Andrews.

Yours fraternally,

JAS. J. SULLIVAN,

Fin. Sec.

### Local Union No. 5.

Pittsburg, April 8, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker;

We had a ball,

At Turner Hall.

'Twas on the hog,

We had no grog;

But worst of all,

The nervy gall,

Of brothers small.

They wouldn't work,

Did their duty shirk.

If 'twere booze instead of pop,

We'd come out on top.

But the knockers had been out,

And the lazy did grunt and shout.

All balled up from a lack of interest and unwillingness to do their duty, small as it was. Thought we had a good working local.

Disgusted, and almost busted, I express for myself, and also the sentiments of brothers who know they have discharged their full duty, supreme disgust, and when that is said it does not express anything in degree for such action. The next liver headed slop that says ball will be shot.

J. H. STOUFFER.

### Local Union No. 8.

Toledo, O., April 4, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

As it is about time for No. 8 to have a few lines in the Worker, I will do my best to give them some information about Toledo. I suppose it is a well-known fact we have a strike here at the present time. Indications do not seem very favorable, as work is not good as it might be. We have three contractors who have signed our agreement, leaving four that have not signed. Probably some of the locals do not know what we asked for. Well, boys, our proposition was for \$2.50 per day for nine hours; we received \$2.25 last year and did not have any trouble, and it was the first time an agreement was presented to the electrical contractors in Toledo.

But what a difference this year, all for the fourth of a dollar—twenty-five cents; just think of it, boys. But don't think of coming here, as we have some of the cheapest skates that ever happened, doing business with their offices under their hats. I would not use the above language if I did not earnestly believe what I have said. We have some imported scabs and some that are not imported; but I am glad to say they do not belong to No. 8.

Well, to change the subject, Bro. Gilsdorf had a very serious accident happen to him. He was working on a 20-foot ladder tying in a wire his helper was pulling on. In some manner the tie-wire came off, striking him in the chest, precipitating him to the ground, fracturing his right wrist, spraining his left wrist and injuring his back. But I am glad to report the brother in very good shape at this time. We have another brother in the hospital, Bro. A. J. Baker, who is very ill with typhoid fever. We have been very lucky, if I may call it luck, in regard to paying sick benefits. I have not seen any money go towards sick benefits in one and a half years, and the boys are not any healthier in Toledo than anywhere else, but the reason is self-explanatory—the brothers were not in good standing or they were not entitled to benefits. Now, brothers, some of you will get sick some day, and if you are not in good standing you cannot expect to receive sick benefits; so do not be delinquent in the future, as bad results may happen; better be prepared. I would much rather see the money paid out for sick benefits, as it is a credit to any local to have the brothers rated as first-class.

Any of the brothers informing me where there is work for one more inside wireman will confer a favor on me. Not particular as to location—anywhere this side the Klondike.

Yours fraternally,

J. J. DUCK, P. S.

412 Sherman St.

P. S.—Will give a list of the scabs next time, as I cannot get all of the names at present.

J. J. D.

### Local Union No. 9.

Chicago, April 9, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

The boys of No. 9 are now resting after energetic work and worry of a civil election in our great city. We have had no less than six willing to serve as mayor; but the people's choice was Carter H. Harrison, who has held that honorable position for the past two years. As the Brotherhood has much to thank Mr. Harrison and his chief electrician, Mr. Ellicott, for, it is needless for one to say that as much time and influence as its members could command was cheerfully placed at the disposal of Mr. Harrison. On the first of this month the city of Chicago, through the mayor and chief electrician, entered into an agree-

ment to hire none but union men, pay \$3.00 per day of eight hours, time and one-half for over-time, and allow one-quarter day for days men show up and do not work,—said agreement to be binding on both parties for a term of two years, and sixty days notice to be given by either party of any change to be made in same. The present mayor has worked for the people's interest on all occasions and given us good government since he went into office. When the city railways wanted a fifty year franchise he was determined that the taxpayer should receive full value for his money spent and any franchise which was worth having should be paid for in full. During past administrations favor was shown in all appointments to office and many incompetent men were drawing salary for which they returned very little equivalent in labor. He very wisely conferred with the heads of the electrical department and they concluded that the Union men employed by the city were up to date in every particular and their union worth recognized. So for the future when a man goes to look for a soft snap on the city work, he will find that the first requisite is a paid-up card from the N. B. E. W. and his ability to do his laps down the line with the rest of the boys. The city employees in underground cable and operating departments are getting together to form a local of their own, as they now see the benefit which the aerial linemen derived from theirs. There are many men in the employ of the city at present, and many who expect to go on this summer who must now come in our local. Many will be the excuses as to why they never joined the brotherhood but, like the master in the good book, we must give unto them that come in the eleventh hour the same as to those who worked from morn through the heat of the day. It is a pity that so many people look upon unions and union men as socialists, anarchists and men bodied together to destroy the peace and prosperity of this country, but I believe that if the presidents and directors of those great corporations were to individually treat with the men, not to listen to the go-between who in many cases looks to his own advancement by the depression of the toiler, things would be different.

I notice in the papers of late how prosperous our country is getting, how wages are being raised 5 to 10 per cent. and everything prospering, but it is only under the hardest times our country has seen for many years that the same amount was taken off, so to prove how very prosperous we are wages should really be raised to double the per cent. now given. I noticed that Friday last was a black Friday in New York in the Stock Exchange, and that the new trusts and combines had some of the water squeezed from their stock. I wondered how many linemen were short on

margins and suffered the squeeze. Knowing their daring and believing they are heavily interested in all such corporations, I expect to hear through the Worker of some of their losses.

Sincerely trusting that old No. 9 and the city may both profit from their new agreement, and that it may be only the opening of many between other locals and other cities, I remain,

Fraternally yours,

LUKE O'TOOLE,

Press Secretary.

#### Local Union No. 10.

Indianapolis, April 4, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Brothers, everywhere, this should be one of the best letters ever written from No. 10. I shall do the best I can to make it interesting, but as you already know that I am not much of a writer you will not expect as good a letter as if some one else was writing.

I will first mention the sick. Bro. Harrison Pike, who is at the point of death with typhoid fever, has been sick for about four weeks. It seems hard to believe that a man with the hardy, robust constitution which Bro. Pike resembled, could get so low in health and so dangerously ill in so short a time. His faithful wife is doing everything that can possibly be done for him. No. 10 is aiding her with our \$5.00 weekly sick benefit, and some of our boys are at the house almost constantly; and I wish to say through this paper that if we had not been forbidden the privilege of seeing him he would have had many more callers, and as soon as he is convalescent enough to receive us we will prove to him that he is not forgotten. No. 10 joins in extending heartfelt sympathy to the faithful wife, and we hope that when another letter is written to the Worker we can say that Bro. Pike is improving and past all danger. There is no other sickness among our members so far as we know.

There is plenty of work in the city and all seem busy. We haven't told of much excitement lately, but you can bet that we have a real live local, and our members are hustlers. We expect soon to have the best of the Electric Light men in our local. We have been given to understand by the officials of the Central Union Tel. Co. that we will get a good contract with them, similar, if not better, than the one we hold with the new Tel. Co.

There is a bright outlook at present for a strictly union town, but there is work to do to bring this about, and No. 10 is ready to do the work. We have raised our initiation fee to \$10, and we have re-established our \$5.00 weekly sick benefit. We have an exceptionally good set of officers, our books are in first-class shape, and our members are nearly all paid up to date—"only a few laggards," and many have

taken out three-months cards. There seems to be no room for complaint. Oh, yes! we stuck Fred Hoenstine's head in a barrel this morning. Fred is the happiest man on earth now. He went and got spliced last week; all on account of a love affair. Long life, much happiness, great joy and a big boy is the harum we wish to Mr. and Mrs. Hoenstine. We expect there will be another happy mother and father in town before we write again—no names now.

There is a great fight in this city between the Street Car monopoly and the Central Labor Union over a 3-cent fare and short-term franchise; against 5-cent fare and a 34-year franchise. In other words, the Street Car Co. wants everything their ill-gotten gains will buy, and the Central Labor Union is fighting them for what is just and right. Let us enter all such fights and do our duty as honest citizens.

Fraternally yours,

E. E. BAUMAN,

Press Secretary.

#### Local Union No. 17.

Detroit, Mich., April 7, 1899.

Editor Electric Worker:

I was requested to act as Press Secretary to the Journal this month; No. 17 sends a hearty greeting to all good brotherhood men with hearts of oak.

Bro. Jack Forbes, who fell from a ladder in the hall, has fully recovered and is working, and we see his smiling face at the meetings, of which we are glad, as he is one of our handsomest members and we like to have him around.

Bro. Geo. Harrison, better known as "Lilacs," also met with an accident. One of his gang at the top of a pole dropped his connectors and they struck Bro. Harrison on the bridge of the nose. He was attended by a surgeon, and luckily will not be disfigured.

Bro. Louis Timme has started a wiring and repair Co., and as he is a hustler, I predict that he will give some of the other contractors a whirl this Summer that will make them hang onto the bromo seltzer bottle.

I understand that the Public lighting commission is going to depose Supt. Starring who had the trouble with the trimmers last summer. It is well nigh incomprehensible to us why he stood out against the Union, for he has a good business head and is as smart as a whip, and he must know that organized labor is a bad thing to go up against. I have heard that he claimed that he was not responsible for the trouble, but the men claimed that he was, and there you are. Personally I have no grievance against him, but a large number of the boys have.

Brothers Gus Worden, Mose Conine and the rest of the linemen quit the Ypsilanti

and Ann Arbor Electric road the other day and came into town and all went to work for the Telephone Co's. There were certain conditions out on the road that these brothers as Union men would not stand for. I will state that Bro. Gus Worden, as foreman, absolutely refused to have any man on the job who did not carry a Union card. That is the kind of unionism that counts; that is the kind of principle the Union is trying to beat under the No. 6 hat of the Non-Unionist and scab.

Bro. Thos. H. Forbes, Third Vice-President of the National body, was called to Toledo to try and bring about a settlement of the strike of the inside wiremen of No. 8. He reports that four of the seven contractors of the town had signed the scale, and he believes the others will sign eventually, as they had failed so far in getting men from other towns. The men were firm when they left for home. He says No. 8 has a most noble lot of men, and that they will have to be driven to the most desperate straits before they will give in. Here is hoping that No. 8 will win out. If the wiremen of Detroit would show the same zeal they would have everything their own way. As business agent John Shea is getting the Union clause inserted in a lot of contracts, I look for quite an influx of inside wiremen into the organization soon.

We have heard a rumor that one of the boys we used to know here in Detroit had forgotten his principles down in New Orleans. We hope it is a mistaken rumor: we will know later on. We are glad that No. 4 is booming, and we in the frozen North send a greeting to the boys down in the South-land, a greeting from the Pine to the Palmetto.

I noticed in last month's Worker that the Secretary of No. 18 is in favor of making our organization International instead of National and of taking in Canada. I hope Bro. Adams of No. 18 is converted to the idea, for he was greatly opposed to it at our last convention. Brother Adams is one of the foremost men in the Brotherhood, and I think is too liberal minded to oppose this amendment, when it is shown to him how the border cities suffer from the present conditions of having unorganized men from Canada taking jobs that Union men ought to have. We cannot really blame them for they have never been organized in the cities over there, and do not fully realize the meanness of taking another man's place. Let us change this condition at our next convention.

I notice a few of the letters in the Worker from the smaller towns tell of sometimes having hard work to get some of the men into the Union. It is strange that it takes such hard work to get some men to be manly men, when an organization is exerting its every energy and spending its money to create good conditions, and a man

will not join and do his little part, I contend that he is as much a robber as any brigand of the Italian passes, and as much of a thief as any pickpocket in America. I might mention the names of a few such men right here in Detroit, but I will not do so, for the game is too mean to justify individual firing, so I just take a pot-shot at the pack.

We are having rousing meetings now, and are initiating new members in "blocks of five" and things look rosy, which is as it should be. We like to see the hall full of husky boys, and brothers, when you come up, as President Scanlon says each meeting, "don't forget the kiddy," that is, the financial secretary.

The Detroit Telephone Co. and the Bell Co. are going to build in all parts of Michigan this year, and consequently an army of linemen will be employed, and if we get a Union agreement with both companies for a year, as we expect to, No. 17 will boom more than ever, and the members will not be the only ones to prosper by it either. The companies also will reap a vast benefit by it, for the Union agrees to furnish first class mechanics in the business, and none can deny that intelligent workmen are one hundred per cent. more profitable to the employer than a lot of ignorant hobo's, who have never served their apprenticeship in the business. We will say for the benefit of the Bell Co., that in the two years that we have had a Union agreement with the Detroit Co., there has never been a single case of friction. That statement speaks volumes, and proves that the Union asks nothing out of reason, and wants nothing but justice.

President Gompers reports that the American Federation of Labor is gaining strength all over the country, and I want to say to you brothers, do what you can for the cause, and remember that every hound that barks at you this day, and every selfish grinder of the poor who stretches forth his rubber neck to express his disapproval of your brave actions will be dead, and maybe in Hades a hundred years hence. Their foolish yawp gone silent forever, while the influence of your work for the betterment of mankind will live for all time.

Trusts are still being formed you will notice. Organized labor protested against trusts for a long time, but the multitude of merchants and small factory owners have always worn their foul lungs to a frazzle shouting "anarchists" and "conspirators" whenever we protested, but now they are getting squeezed themselves and are forming clubs to combat these same trusts, and I am glad they have to, for they cannot benefit themselves a particle without us being benefited as well. It is time they were doing their little share of this fight. Hereafter they will not blow off so much of their boiled cabbage breaths howling "con-

spiracy," when organized labor speaks on this subject.

Brothers did you know that 'conspirator' is a term that has been applied to every man that has given voice to a patriotic American sentiment, since our grand-sires held the British lion up by the tail and beat the sawdust out of the impudent brute. It was applied to Patrick Henry when he sounded that immortal tocsin of war, "give me liberty or give me death." Later on Washington and his band of patriots had suffered defeat after defeat and the new born nation was bankrupt, then was the term 'conspirators' hurled at them. This nerved them to desperation, and again and again, and yet again, those ragged, bare-footed soldiers, set their breasts against the bayonet until from the very ashes of defeat dear Liberty arose. Shall we be afraid of being called what those God-like men were called? I say no.

To questioners, I will state that this journal was founded by the Brotherhood, as a monthly protest against wrongs to the workmen of our craft. It stands not for party, but for principle. Our editor, Bro. Sherman, has hewed to the line and the ax still swings. Remember that Bro. Sherman depends to a large extent on the Press Secretaries of the different Unions to keep him and the Brotherhood informed as to the condition in their respective cities, in the affairs of our craft. Also to give their ideas on the aims and benefits of all organized labor, that those who are striving for the cause may be cheered, and those who do not understand may be enlightened.

In conclusion, brothers, have zeal for the Union, the heart of the Nation still beats steady and strong for the right, and organized labor is at the front fighting for the right. We are not shrieking for canned blood, but for justice, but at the same time we will not be made a cuspidore of by any Prince, potentate or monopoly, in all the great Universe of God. Organized labor is one of the greatest factors of the present day, and as sure as the sun gilds the arching sky, the banner of the American Federation of Labor, torn, but flying, will yet stream triumphant o'er the grave of tyranny.

DAN E. ELLSWORTH,  
Press Secretary.

#### Local Union No. 18.

Kansas City, Mo., April 1, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

No. 18 is still on the boom. So, No. 17, you had better look out or we will get ahead of you, for we are taking in new members every meeting nowadays.

Bro. Woodworth, of No. 17, has decided to stay in K. C. The writer saw him the other day going down the street coupled up in series with one of K. C.'s fair daugh-

ters. Bro. Woodworth, you had better look out; coming here from Detroit and cutting some of 18's old bachelors out that way. I hardly think we can stand that. Well, when it comes off, let us know.

Bro. Smith has just got back from Chicago. He says the boys of No. 9 treated him right royally. So, if No. 9 has any of her boys out this way, tell them to call on us and we will do our share. All we will ask is that they prove in good standing; we will do the rest.

Local No. 18 appointed an auditing committee to audit the books of the treasurer and financial secretary. We put in five long hours on them. I would rather wind an old-time T. & H. Ball armature than tackle another job like it. Bro. Winders says he don't want any more in his. Bro. Stansbury got hungry and had to go, while your humble servant said he would hire a substitute. Bro. Adams and Bros. Drolinger and Schadler's feet got cold—the writer don't have cold feet (hasn't got any). We are pleased to report that we found all books clear and up-to-date. No. 18 extends her best wishes to her retiring treasurer. Bro. Adams has stood like a stone wall while he has been a member of No. 18. Through good and hard times he has stood for the good of his local, sometimes going down in his own pocket for the money to meet the local's obligations. Boys, that is loyalty for you. God hasten the day when we get a lot more like him. I suppose I will get thunder when Bro. Adams reads this.

I paid a visit to No. 2 and found them in good working order. I found old boss Adams doing double duty, acting as recording secretary and financial secretary at the same time. No. 2 is only a month old, but it is the finest-looking infant you ever saw, and I am pleased to report that it is looking up for greater things yet. They told me they were going to outgrow No. 18. What do you think of that for nerve? Outstrip 18! Well, they have got to show me. I also am from Missouri.

Bro. Elmer Osborn has come back among us after four months absence. We are glad to see him back. He is our jolly old bachelor.

No. 18 has appointed a committee to wait on the aldermen and see if we could not have a bill passed to license all inside men. Here are the names of the committee: Chas. Wood, A. Sprecher and W. L. Hutchinson.

Now, let us hear from all the press secretaries on this question. What do you think of it? We have a lot of small inside men here in K. C. who are working for 15 cents an hour (experts at that?) so they say. Uncle Tom, have you got any 15-cent experts in Cleveland? If so, let us hear about them. Our ordinance will do away with that class of workmen, for they will

have to pass a rigid examination. I don't think they can stand an examination of any kind, let alone a rigid one.

Bro. Short has returned to the fold again. We do like to see the prodigals return to their homes. Come along, ye wanderers from home, and get where you belong.

Uncle Tom, who told you I was little; or did you guess it? If you did, you made a good guess, for I believe that I am the smallest electrical worker in the business. I am just 4 feet 3 inches. Can anybody beat it? If so, let me hear from you.

No. 18 gave Bro. Hutchinson a vote of thanks for his excellent lecture on shunt dynamos. I wish to say our lectures are up to top notch, and the boys take great interest in them. Do you have them? If not, why not? Please answer, if you can. This is something each and every local ought to take up in its regular order of business. You say, "Oh, we have not got time." Take time, and let some other order of business go; but never let the practical discussion of electrical subjects go by, for it is one of the most important ones in our ritual. I would like to hear from some of the other brothers on this subject.

Welcome, No. 4; I am pleased to make your acquaintance. May your press secretary never grow weary.

Well, I will have to ring off; will try and do better next month.

Yours for the union,

HARVEY BURNETT,  
Press Secretary.

#### Local Union No. 22.

Omaha, April 5, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

I expect that most of those who read these lines will consider this another (fool) for the first of April, but I don't intend it as such, and all I can say is, you don't have to read any further.

Local 22 is still in the field, even if they did nearly lose everything in the fire.

A fire broke out in Labor Temple on the 21st ult., and some of the brother unions lost their charter, banner, etc.; however, we saved ours, though the things were somewhat spoiled by water and smoke. Nevertheless we met as usual in temporary quarters in Washington on our regular meeting night. Judging from the spirit shown in the meetings, it will take more than a fire to burn us out or even blow a fuse.

Nearly, if not quite all the members are at work now.

The Greater American Exposition began operations last week and the linemen began Monday.

As Spring begins to show signs of returning, the boys drop in on us from the several quarters where they have been hibernating.

Some of the P. S.'s have been indulging in a mild roast at the expense of those who

are of a less literary turn of mind than themselves. I think we ought to write just a line, even if we cannot say more, just to let the other brothers know we are alive.

Expansion and extension seem to be the vital questions at present, and the movement to make our Brotherhood International seems to be quite natural.

If any brother hasn't read the letter from Atchison in the March Worker, it would pay them to look it up. Like the Irishman's hat, "there's something in it."

I feel like expressing my feelings of the man in Houston, who secured his office through his union brothers and then ignores them; under the circumstances it looks like a pretty shabby trick.

We expect to see lots of work in this State this Summer, as both the Neb. Tel. and the "Postal" are contemplating some little building.

Fraternally yours,

W. C. GOOLD,  
Press Sec.

#### Local Union No. 23.

St. Paul, Minn., April 5, 1898.

Editor Electrical Worker:

I was elected at last meeting to the office of Press Secretary, and proceed to inform you that the month of March has been the banner month for No. 23, although we expect to excel it in this month. We took in a total of 21 members last month and have 30 applications out to committees. Last meeting we took seven into the circuit and they come so fast we have ceased to connect them in series, and have to do it in multiple now. We are hustling for business in every sense of the word.

The Bell Telephone Company are doing quite a little work here, and the Independent Co. (Miss. Valley), expect to make things hum and are employing union men as far as possible.

The next meeting of No. 23 is to be a smoker, and not only cigars and pipes be smoked, but we expect to make the meeting so warm that it will be a smoker right!

There has been introduced into the Minnesota Legislature a bill to license all electricians and it is too long to give in full, but the idea of it is to have a body of five men appointed by the Governor to be called State Board of Electricians, to consist of men of not less than three years experience and to be appointed for terms of one for one year, one for two years, one for three years, one for four years, and one for five years, with all vacancies to be filled for terms of five years. We were to have two Master, two Journeymen and one civil inspector in the employment of an incorporated municipality; master electricians, to get license to do business in this state to have three years experience and give bond for \$5,000.00, for which they pay

\$5.00; journeymen to get licenses must have three years experience and pay for their license the same amount as masters. There is a special license providing for men who are running dynamos and such work, which provides that they shall have two years experience in their special line of work and to no other. It was on that special that we had the argument, and as a result the bill was indefinitely postponed, and we sincerely hope it will stay so until it will give us the protection we need, especially in this state, where every one who squeezes a pair of pliers is a lineman. Now, brothers, I am a new member to the Union, but as I become familiar with faces I may be able to give you something better.

Yours Fraternally,

H. A. C.,  
Press Sec.

#### Local Union No. 27.

Baltimore, Md., April 8, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

As spring is beginning to peep through the mists of winter and herald a prosperous year for our city, so will No. 27 glow out once more on the horizon from her winter's repose. Silence has been her only letter in the Worker for some months, but No. 27 has not been asleep by any means. With business men at the helm she is working on business principles and doing untold good for the order and members. Of course we have the all-year-round kickers and those that do more than the rest. That element necessarily has to be contended with, but, taking it as a whole, I think No. 27 is blest with a body of energetic and worthy men, and always jealous of her good name. We have on our staff of officers the cream of the local, headed by Bro. W. W. Welsh, president, a most efficient and thrifty leader; followed by Bro. C. Hawkins, vice-president, cool-headed and fearless, and Bro. F. H. Russell, financial secretary. No pen can describe his worth. Bro. Chas. Seitz, treasurer, who is capable of filling the chair of United States treasurer, and so on down the line, and by having such able men to pilot us why shouldn't we gloriously peep out of the snow and sleet of the last blizzard with smiling faces and be ready to tackle the great amount of work that is in store for us? (So the capitalists say.)

Blooms have rapidly begun to appear in Baltimore, not blooming flowers, dear reader, but blooming trusts, syndicates, etc., and all grow and thrive from the same roots and cuttings. The cuttings are principally obtained from the wages of the workingmen, and the roots and sap from his skill and labor. The working class have a trust, too. Their trust is in their organizations, and since competition is the life of trade we hope to be able to

compete with them; at any rate we can trust in God and chew poke root while we wait for the final issue.

No. 27 appeared to be convalescing so rapidly from the rheumatism that it concluded to have a hop, so day and date were set and a grand entertainment and hop announced for December 13, 1893. To say it was a success would be putting it in very modest terms. It was in every sense an unprecedented success and a very handsome dividend was declared in favor of the local. A prominent electrical engineer was very profuse in his congratulations, and said he had never witnessed finer electrical displays on any occasion. We hereby extend our most sincere thanks to the following firms: John K. How & Co., Northern Electrical Company, and the Edison Ill. Company for their great help in furnishing us with material, current, etc. A great portion of the credit for its success was earned by Bros. Petticord and Gilbert, though the other members had new rings put in their noses and rooted for all they were worth.

At last we have a Building Trades Council. It is something we have been working for for some years. Though in its infancy it is being felt and doing united good for all concerned.

The "Labor Advocate," the official organ for the Federation of Labor, was launched three weeks ago. It is a very valuable acquisition to the organization generally, a bright and newsy periodical. We wish it all the success imaginable, and would like to see subscriptions coming in from out-of-town brothers. It can be obtained for the very small sum of fifty cents per year. Remember it is for the great cause, and it is the duty of every working-man to help it along.

The out-look for the building trades in Baltimore this year is very bright, and we hope some of the proposed work will materialize before some unforeseen cloud flits across the bright sky and hides it. I hope to have a more definite report in reference to work before the Worker goes to press next month. Work on the sub-way has begun, and ere another year rolls around it is thought that a majority of the vast number of over-head wires will be under ground. Some of our members are wiggling to get a slice of the pie. I hope they will succeed, but it takes (so I understand) influence, a pull from both political parties and the man on the fence. The new court house is expected to be completed in the fall, and, when finished, will be the second finest court house in the United States. The wiring and tubing is being installed by J. F. Buchanan & Co., of Philadelphia, under the direct supervision of Mr. Joseph Bullington, who is in every way master of his trade and a staunch friend of organized labor. Being

an old K. of L. man he naturally clings to his first love, the labor question, and therefore No. 27 has no kick coming, as all has been granted her that has been asked. We are only too sorry we can't keep him with us always. He is wiring the building for something over 5,000 lights. A description of the plant will be sent in later.

The Massachusetts Office Building, thirteen stories, is nearing completion, which, when finished, will be another monument of beauty to our staid old city.

The Postal Tel. Co. has started to rebuild its lines throughout the city. Foreman Mulligan is doing the work and brought his men from Pittsburg with him. I am glad to say all of our members are at present employed.

Wife has got short circuited with the baby, so I will have to stop and clear up the trouble.

"MISPAH."

#### Local Union No. 35.

Boston, Mass., April 7, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

One would think it was the easiest thing in the world to find news to represent a Local with the membership of 35, and a city as large as Boston for a field, but I have learned from a few months experience, that it is the hardest thing I can find to do, and whatever sense of pride I might have felt when nominated and elected by a unanimous vote has long since left me. However, as the duty is mine to date to forward letter I will do so, and furnish what might be of some interest, however brief it may be.

Our President, T. R. Melville, has accepted a position on the Boston Fire department, the job coming about by the Department of wires recognizing the Union and his capability of accepting position of telegrapher and lineman.

Some little trouble is on just at present regarding the employment of engineers running dynamos, the engineers claiming that it is more in their line than in the Electrical Workers. I can't see it that way myself, and if the committee, who is delegated to represent the Electrical Workers do their duty, I have no doubt but the fact will be made very plain to the Engineer's Union that the work does not belong to them in any sense. As the settlement of the matter favorable to the Electrical Workers' Union means much, I hope they will not yield until the matter is finally settled favorable to them.

I was at Hartford recently. The boys report things running smoothly and were busy in anticipation of putting on an electric display for the policemen's ball. I have seen an account of the ball in the papers since, and that the display loaned by Electrical Workers' Union was much admired.

In looking over the Worker, last issue I noticed many were possessed of a poetic turn of mind. Being somewhat of a poet myself I will contribute the following:

Pleasant recollections flit

Across my mind to-day,  
And memory sweet recalls the past,  
With pleasures grave and gay;  
The hopes that lived in vigor once  
With the passing years have fled,  
There's nothing much to cheer me now,  
But the good times ahead.

Yes, the good times like an army,  
Who volunteered to fight.  
Revering their country which  
They know is in the right,  
Come swooping down upon us  
With a slow and measured tread,  
With musketry of better wages,  
And ammunition for poor to buy bread.

Prosperity we greet you,  
And we gladly clasp your hand,  
And hope it be extended  
To all throughout this land;  
For we long to hear the Eagle scream  
As our Fathers did of yore,  
When peace and plenty greeted all,  
Who entered at our door.

Then fare thee well, depression,  
We are no longer in thy grasp.  
The hand that gave us freedom will  
Now our country clasp;  
With contentment and good wages,  
All will be well fed,  
And life will be worth living,  
In the good old times ahead.

Fraternally,  
SHEEHAN.

#### Local Union No. 36.

Sacramento, Cal., April 1, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

The question of helpers is worthy of a great deal of consideration, especially in the electrical business. We should by all means organize or bring the helpers into the union, where we can watch and make good union men out of them, as we only too well know, the electrical workers are not near all in the fold of the Brotherhood. In case of trouble, the helper, as a rule, is the first to take a good man's job. In these days of trusts labor cannot be too well organized. I do not know if the brother asking the question makes a distinction between a helper and an apprentice. An apprentice is usually content to work for what he can get in order to learn the trade, whereas a helper may receive common laborer's wages. The apprentice and helper are the journeymen of the future. A man ought to work about one year, which would show that he is willing to follow the trials and tribulations of the craft. About that time he begins to think he knows it all, and it would be well to take him in hand and tell him of a few

things he does not know; also teach him the principles of unionism. Most locals have sections in their by-laws governing apprentices, and helpers would come under the same head.

Bro. Dickey has been laid up with eye trouble for the past three weeks. He is expected on duty again in a few days.

No. 36 will give a smoker in the near future.

Work is brisk for men with paid-up cards. Bro. W. Williams being put on night duty, he resigned as foreman. Mike Grogan was appointed to fill the place.

The plumbers have held several meetings and will organize in the near future.

As I have been informed, several Brotherhood men stopped over in our city recently, but never paid us a visit. Now, boys, that's not right. You will never know what a nice crowd of fellows we are unless you visit us at one of our meetings, providing you hold a paid-up card. We all know Sacramento steam beer is very good; come and see us the next time and have one with us after meeting.

Faternally yours,

C. V. SCHNEIDER,  
Press Secretary.

#### Local Union No. 37. (Continued from last month.)

Hartford, Conn., April 8, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

State street station, or station No. 3, is located in the center of the business district of the city and is well adapted for the direct current low voltage system, for which it is used. It is connected with Pearl street station and the river station by two lines, so that current may be supplied from either as occasion requires. In this station are two 350 kilo watts Westinghouse rotaries and a 2,000 ampere hour storage battery, made by the Philadelphia Storage Battery Company. This station supplies the current to all the underground systems. At present they have eight sets of three-wire five hundred thousand circle mill feeders, run to eight stub boxes placed about two blocks apart on the main business street. From these boxes Edison 250,000 circular mill tubes are used to supply the service. For the districts outlying this, and yet where they are required to put the wires underground, the alternating single phase system is used. The current is supplied to two terminal points at 1,200 volts, single phase, and from these it is transformed to 220 volts, three-wire. The storage battery is used to help out on the heavy load, and while it has not come up to the standard set for it, it has given entire satisfaction so far. It has been in use about three years. Quite a novel feature in connection with this station is a storage battery in the department store of Geo. O. Sawyer. This battery is charged during the day at motor rates to supply

the store lighting, and, as the battery requires but little attention, it has proven quite an economical investment. The switchboards in all the stations are of white marble, and were made by the Westinghouse Company. In State street there are eighteen panels containing the controlling apparatus for the rotaries, storage battery and one for each set of feeders. In Pearl street there are sixteen panels, and three at the River station. There are also five marble arc boards situated in the different sub-stations of the plug type. The demand for motor service here has almost doubled within the past year, and is constantly on the increase. Many of the larger manufacturing concerns are doing away with their steam power, as they have found the motor more economical and serviceable, as they can place a motor in a position most advantageous to the saving of power. One concern has at present about 150 horse power in motors, ranging from thirty to five horse power, and is continually putting more in as occasion demands. The meter and arc departments are thoroughly equipped with every convenience for the repairing and testing. Thomson Watt meters are used entirely. This company buys two-wire meters and changes them over to three-wire, thus saving about \$5 on every meter which they purchase.

As soon as the weather will permit work is to be started on a new power station on the Farmington wires, about five miles above the present one. They will be able to obtain about 2,000 additional horse power, which will make this one of the best paying electric light plants in this country.

M. P. SULLIVAN.

#### Local Union No. 38.

Cleveland, O., April 8, 1899.

My Dear Nephew:

Your uncle don't feel much like writing this month, on account of having exhausted a considerable amount of energy in the recent municipal election, and the fact that his man for mayor came out second best and the other fellow on top does not tend to make him feel very uproarious; and I am inclined to believe that a few more such calamities would drive him to hard drinks. On this account I will not be able to give you anything particularly interesting.

There is going to be plenty of work in the city this spring, providing the Lord lets the frost come out of the ground before fall. No. 38 has a new scale for the contractors to sign, and no trouble is anticipated on that point. The scale provides for \$2.50 per day for an 8-hour day, time and one-half for overtime, and double time for Sundays and holidays. One helper to two journeymen, helper to receive not less

than \$1.50 per day, and none but union men to be employed.

The union men of this city are making a brave stand this spring; about 2,000 carpenters are now out waiting for their demand for an increase of 40 cents per day (8 hours). There seems to be no doubt they will win out. There is going to be piles of work here this spring, but any man coming here without a working card filled out up to date might just as well be in Malolos, so far as getting a job is concerned. Owing to the demand for help and the fact that it is necessary to have some one to see to it that none but good union men be employed, we have been compelled to place a business agent in the field. Bro. Cy Gechter is the man, and that he is the right man in the right place has been proved to our entire satisfaction.

An ordinance came up in the city council this week granting the Cuyahoga Telephone Co. the right to string their wires upon the poles of the Electric Lighting Co., with the understanding that the telephone and all low tension wires shall be placed at least 4½ feet below wires of high tension. The ordinance provided suitable safeguards for the protection of life and property. There was some objection to the ordinance by the city electrician and others. No. 38 thought it an improvement on the system now in vogue in this city, where telephone and other bare wires are constantly crossing high-tension wires, and, as the boys of 38 will do the work, they concluded they had better get into the mix-up. So we drew up a resolution and toted it down to the City Hall Tuesday evening, and the result was, the ordinance went through whooping. The following clipping from one of the daily papers explains itself:

"The telephone ordinance, over which there has been such a difference of opinion, was passed by the council last evening.

"It permits the stringing of high and low tension wires upon the same poles and hereafter the electric illuminating company and the telegraph and telephone companies may construct their respective lines on cross-arms upon the same poles, where they come to a mutual agreement.

"An amendment was attached to the ordinance upon the recommendation of the local electrical workers' union. This provided that the illuminating wires should be on top and four and one-half feet above the telegraph and telephone wires.

"The electrical workers' union was represented in the council chamber by C. W. Gechter, business agent; J. H. Gleason, president, and Mack Willson, Thomas Wheeler, R. M. Ross and J. Albrecht. They showed that closer proximity of the wires would be dangerous."

No. 38 has been in existence more than five years and not a member has been called over the river as yet, but we are occasionally called upon to share a brother's

grief. Only a few weeks ago our esteemed brother, Peter Hovis, buried his little daughter, who died quite suddenly, and Bro. Chapman has just buried his father and sister. The brothers have the heartfelt sympathy of the entire local in this, the hour of their sorrow.

Bro. Fred Ward is a very sick man. This brother seems to have had more than his share of trouble, this being the second long spell of sickness he has had in the past six months. This and other troubles that have come thick and fast upon the brother make one feel at times as if fate had nothing in store for him but hard luck. But brace up, brother; maybe your luck will change some day; maybe you will strike a gold mine somewhere; maybe you will get to be a councilman and then a mayor; who knows.

My dear nephew, the P. S. of 56, thinks it was owing to his surroundings that our ex-Bro. Schwimmer from Erie went wrong. Well, now, my boy, maybe that's so. I swow, I had not looked at it that way before, but now you speak of it, I am inclined to agree with you. You know, if you turn a pig loose in the parlor the chances are that he will upset some of the bric-a-brac; and again, if you turn him loose in the flower-garden he will no doubt root up some of the geraniums and christaunthumbs (your aunt says I have not spelled the name of that last flower correctly; but I know better, thanks to my college education). Now, this may be the trouble with our ex-brother. Having lived in a small town where oil barons, private telephones, street cars, etc., etc., are unknown, perhaps, it's no wonder that, coming to the metropolis fresh from the rural district, unused to life in a big city, with all its pomp and pride, he was tempted and fell down by the wayside. Maybe all this is true, my boy. If, after his Rip Van Winkle sleep in the suburban districts he awakens in the 20th century among people and surroundings up to date, perhaps he may be excused if the hinges upon the trap-door of his mental coal-shute become loose and out of kilter. Perhaps the transformation was too quick. Perhaps the intellectual current from the great alternator of trade and commerce was greater than his mental rotary could transform. Reared in obscurity, his sudden raise to affluence and society was more of a jag than he could carry alone, and as none knew he was overloaded he fell down. All right, my boy; if after his trial all this turns out to be true, I will take back all I said about his coming from Erie. Moreover, I will stand up and proclaim to the world, through the Worker, that this chap was born in Buffalo, educated in Detroit, learned his trade in Pittsburg, and that he never was in Erie, don't know anything about Erie, and don't want to.

And now, my boy, comes the part of my

letter that I want each and every one to read, and consider it addressed to him personally. Away down in Texas there lives a man, or rather a human being who was once a man, but who can no longer be considered a man, *except in morals and intellect*, and this person is our brother; a physical wreck; a brother unable to use hand or foot, unable to shake you or I by the hand as you would shake the hand of a brother—a brother who, so far as the physical forces of nature are concerned, is practically dead. My hearty, well-fed, strong-limbed brother, little do you and I understand the mental and physical suffering this brother has been and is at present called upon to suffer. You think it pretty tough if you are laid off a week or a month, and kick hard because you are not permitted to work for a short time; but suppose you were laid off for a lifetime, and not only refused an opportunity to earn an honest living for yourself and those depending upon you, but were compelled to sit idly by and see those you would gladly work and toil for work and toil for you—*toil for you that you might have the bare necessities of life, without one solitary comfort, pleasure or luxury.* Do you think you would kick? I am inclined to think you would; and who could blame you. Now, we have a brother who was once a strong, active, hard-working, industrious lineman (and a good union man to boot), capable of earning an honest living, which he did, but in a moment he was made a cripple, a paralytic, helpless for life, and this through no fault of his.

Brothers, we are 2500 strong; 2500 of us who are not helpless, but who, on the contrary, are able to do an honest day's work for an honest day's pay. Now, then, will we 2500 strong, able men, stand idly by and see a brother suffer for the bare necessities of life, while we have enough, and we not lift a finger or raise a hand to help him out? Shame upon us as a Brotherhood if such be the case. If there is not enough manhood in the N. B. E. W. of A. to place Brother Wright in a position where he can earn at least enough to enable him to live in a house, sleep in a bed and provide himself with food, clothing and fuel; if there is not manhood enough among us for that, then let us perish from the earth; let us crawl into our holes and get some *man* to push the hole in after us. It is no excuse to say you have troubles of your own; it is no excuse to say we have our own sick to take care of, for if any mother's son of you will show me a case that can be compared to that of Brother Wright, I promise you faithfully I will do my part towards helping him along the rough and rugged pathway of life as freely and heartily as I am now trying to help out Bro. Wright. Bro. Breese, of No. 41, has started the ball. He has succeeded in raising about \$40; he wants to get \$250 or \$300. He believes

this amount will start our brother in some kind of a small business, either a news stand, a small tobacco stand, or something of the kind. But \$40 is not enough. We want at least \$250 more. Bro. Breese has done the best he could, but the balance of us (I except those who contributed to the \$40 now on hand) have not. What's the matter with you? What's the matter with me? Simply this: we don't suffer with pain. We have a house, a bed to sleep in, we have clothes and fuel. We can keep warm. We can walk around and see the world, and therefore we say to ourselves, as did the old farmer after harvest: "The Lord bless me and my wife, my son John and his wife; we four and no more." Well, that's not building up the brotherhood of man. If each and every one of you will come down with one dime, Bro. Wright will be a bloated bondholder in a few months, and no doubt a happy man. Just think of it! 2500 of us! one dime, ten little cents each, and the thing is done. To you, if you smoke, it will mean one or two less cigars. If you indulge in strong drink, it will mean one less whisky, two less beers. If you chew, one less plug. If you ride on the street cars, walk one day (I am sure Bro. Wright would do as much for you). All this means little to you, but to our brother it means a fortune. Why not try it? Make one man happy. Why not make the sacrifice, and see if you don't sleep as sound, eat as much, and get as fat. Do it and receive the "God bless you" of this unfortunate brother, which is worth 100 times 10 cents. Now, maybe some one will say, "That duck has an over-supply of gall." Maybe I have, but you just give us 10 cents and I don't care what you say. I am trying to help out Bro. Breese in this undertaking, and I am going right after the Brotherhood in the name of sweet charity. I want 10 cents from every man in the Brotherhood, and would like it now; and, if you will not be offended or misconstrue the spirit in which the expression is made, I will say we want it P. D. Q.; and unless I mistake the kind of people we are, I will get it, for I am persuaded that each and every man will say within his heart: "I am with you; God help the unfortunate; I am willing to do my part." Now, I am not going to ask you to contribute as individuals, as that would be impracticable; but I will ask each local to contribute a sum equal to 10 cents for every member in good standing. I don't care how you raise the money. You can take it from your treasury, make an assessment, or any other old way you may see fit. It's none of our business how you get it, *but get it!*—a sum equal to one dime per member (more if you like). Send the money to G. S. Bro. Sherman this month. State the amount sent and what it's for, and Bro. Sherman will publish a list of locals in the May number of the Worker (that is, I think he

will; I have not asked him about it yet), giving the amount each local has contributed, and woe unto that local which fails to show its hand. Now, in order to have some system and to be assured that the scheme will prove successful, I will ask the president and press secretary of each local to take charge of the matter in their respective locals and push the scheme to a success, and we shall expect a reply from every local, from No. 1 to No 28. No matter how small you are, you can do something. Now, don't get mad and say someone is trying to boss you; that someone thinks they are the whole push; don't get that way, for it will do no good, at least so far as I am concerned, for my nerve is so great and my cheek so hard that all kinds of abuse runs off it as water off a duck's back. Remember, I am your uncle, and have a right to talk to you in an uncley way. So be good boys and do as I tell you, and may the good Lord mete out to you the same measure you mete unto our unfortunate brother. **UNCLE TOM.**

P. S.—I don't know as it's good policy to mix politics into the Worker, but I can't help mentioning the election of Mayor Jones of Toledo, O. Mayor Jones has served one term as mayor and came up for renomination, but was turned down at the regular Republican Convention (his friends say he was turned down by fraud). As his party did not care enough about him to nominate him, he determined to go it alone. He made the run as an independent candidate, and when the votes were counted on the 3d of April Mr. Jones had received more votes than both the Democratic and Republican candidates combined. He carried every voting precinct in the city and, mind you, he not only had to fight both Democratic and Republican parties and candidates, but also the allied forces of corporative greed, plunder, bluff and boodle, but his platform was: The golden rule, municipal ownership of public utilities, an eight-hour day for workingmen and women, and equal rights for all. This tells the story. All honor to Toledo! All honor to No. 8, as they no doubt had a hand in the mix-up. Would to Heaven there were more No. 8's and more Toledos. Maybe No. 8 will not thank me for poking into her political affairs, but I can't help it. I am stuck on Jonesy, and don't care who knows it. I tell you, young man, what this country of ours needs, and needs badly, what she is fairly aching for, what this great liberty-loving people earnestly and devoutly want, but don't know just how to get, is more Jones and more Joy, less Hanna and less Hell. Your **UNCLE.**

#### Local Union No. 40.

St. Joseph, Mo., March 26, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

We should like to notify, through the medium of the Worker, all such brothers

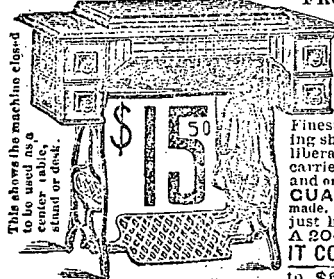
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as do not attend the meetings of our local, that we have now the best President Local No. 40 ever had. He is trying to hold the brothers strictly to the rules of debate, which will do away with the thing they call "rag-chewing." I don't like the expression, but sometimes it fits the case. Brother J. C. Schneider is the right stuff for President. Bros. Sinclair and Schultz are no longer delegates to the Central Labor Council, Bros. Dorsell and Melvin being elected to take their places. Bro. Dorsell responded and was on hand at the last meeting of the Central Labor Council, but for some reason not yet made clear Bro. Melvin has failed to show his face at the last two meetings. If he should miss the next meeting he will surely lose his job as delegate.

Mr. Charles Waller must be the busiest man in St. Joseph. Bro. Waller was elected as Vice-President in January, but the chair of the Vice remains vacant except by special appointment at each meeting.

The Central Labor Council of St. Joseph will henceforth make the fourth Friday in each month an open meeting for all the members of all the unions in the city. All of the union men are invited to attend, at 8 p. m., on that night, at the Odd Fellows' Building, corner 7th and Charles streets.

Members of the various unions interested are likely to join hands and organize a Building Trades Council in this city, which is a very necessary thing here, especially this season. We are much afraid they are too late; this ought to have been done two months since. It is to be hoped that the unions will get a big move on themselves and organize before the building season opens up in the city. All around us the cities have trades building councils, and

when the building season commences they will unload into our city all the hoboes and scabs, and unless we are prepared to handle the situation we will be hopelessly swamped. Union men will please note that fact.

There is one thing I do not clearly understand. I have not received a Worker addressed to me for three months past, but I have received the paper addressed to others in my care. I received four papers of the last issue for others. My address is 1002 North 2d street, St. Joseph, Mo.

We believe all the brothers are now working. Bro. Christian Shultz went to work for the Swift Packing Co. last Tuesday, as an inside wireman.

Respectfully,

JAS. T. MOTTER,  
Press Secretary.

#### Local Union No. 41.

Buffalo, April 7, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

In order to keep up with the procession and also my agreement (which is more than contractors do) with the local, I shall endeavor to contribute a line to our journal.

I have returned to my home in the City of Breezes, and find everybody well and very enthusiastic over the Pan-American Exposition. I see the commission have not selected the site up to this writing, but before we get this letter into print they will have decided, and undoubtedly the ground broken for one of the greatest enterprises Buffalo has ever undertaken. I might say the prospects for electrical work during the construction of buildings for the exposition is very good, but just at the present time work is very slack

here. I understand there is a committee from the Pan American to meet a committee from the Trade and Labor Council to arrange some matters pertaining to labor, and if it can be arranged satisfactory to both parties, all contracts will have the union labor clause inserted, which will assure the Pan-American stockholders that they will have the best work that can be done by man. My way of looking at such things is this, if you want a good job of work done employ a union man, for all good men belong to the union. I think the brothers will agree with me that when you find a man that does not associate himself with his tradesmen you are pretty sure to find a man that is no good at anything he undertakes. If he can't see the benefit of an organization there is certainly something wrong with his brain, and it takes a good and well developed brain to make a good workman.

The brothers in Buffalo feel very greatly indebted to His Honor, Mayor Conrad Deihl, for his untiring efforts to bring about this Pan-American Exhibition. I understand he has said that after the workmen of Buffalo have all been employed it will then be time enough to call on outsiders.

I notice in the March Worker that the brother from Local 17, who signs himself "Joe Bedore," says that I sat quietly and smiled at his discomfiture when his amendment was introduced for the annexation of Canada workers into the Brotherhood. You are right, Thomas, but I had a reason for smiling, and also a reason for not wanting the Brotherhood made international. Since then my views have changed, and I have also changed location, which brings me on the border, and I can now see where the benefit would be in making the Brotherhood international, and hope at our next convention (which is not far off) those interested in this matter will be able to carry it through successfully, so that the Brotherhood can reach out its hand to our craftsmen across the water and say, "Boys, come in."

Bro. Burgess is sick; we hope not seriously, and look forward to an early recovery.

Bro. Albert Sterns has taken out an honorary withdrawal card, which I am sorry to see. It is all right for men over age to take honorary cards, but Bro. Sterns could spend many a pleasant evening with us before he reaches the age limit. Come, Al., think it over; think of the very interesting debates you miss, and all the fun, too.

Bro. Leary is a warm member, and I find can put up a real nice argument.

I notice in the evening paper that the state assembly has passed a bill to provide for a board of electrical examiners to examine and license all men engaged as electrical wiremen in the cities of Buffalo

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and New York, and that the bill will, no doubt, pass the senate.

I feel that I must say a word in favor of our journal. I think that in the past year we have made more progress in perfecting the Worker than in any previous year to my knowledge. The Question Box seems to be the proper caper. H. S. Sherman is proving himself to be quite a journalist as well as an expert in swelling the National Brotherhood treasury.

Fraternally Yours,

WM. A. BREESE,  
Press Sec.

Local Union No. 45.

Buffalo, N. Y., April 2, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Being elected to fill the unexpired term of our illustrious and regular elected Press Secretary, whose valuable services, by some chance of fortune, we were unlucky enough to be deprived of, with faltering hand I take the pen to represent the time honored counsel of 45 in the columns of the Electrical Worker. I no doubt esteem it an honor to be added to the able staff of Press Secretaries of our valuable journal, but nevertheless I feel my first attempt will be somewhat feeble. Therefore I will commence with what I will term foreign news, by stating that we had a visit from a very severe sleet storm a few weeks ago, which raised havoc among the wires of the different companies, and on account of the much lighter wire used by the Bell Telephone Co. they consequently suffered the most severe damage, and many telephones were left silent from its effects; also their heavy loads of wires were badly wrecked. But under the able superintendence of H. C. Aldredge and Chief Operator McKenzie,

with their well-drilled corps of union line-men, they quickly cleared away and repaired the wreck so that the Bell Co. is again prepared to continue its uninterrupted and valuable service to the public. I tell you, brothers, a well organized city of electrical workers stands in no fear of those once dreaded sleet storms, which some time ago used to paralyze a city for months. Now, in regard to local news, it is unnecessary to state we had a very business-like meeting at our last regular, many very important questions regarding by-laws were ably discussed.

I am sorry to state that Bro. William Geary has had the sad misfortune to lose his mother very suddenly a short time ago; he has the heartfelt sympathy of all the brothers of 45. I will also state that two of our brothers recently joined the 13th Infantry of the United States army, and are preparing to depart with them for the Phillipine Islands to combat for supremacy with the rebel forces, and we sincerely hope that they will succeed in dodging the long-ranged and rapid-fire Mauser bullets.

Truly and Fraternaly yours,

J. J. CASEY.

Local Union No. 49.

Chicago, Ill., March 3, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker;

Hon. Carter H. Harrison, Sr., when mayor of the city of Chicago, introduced the arc-light system for street lighting. The sudden change from the dim gas lamp to the brilliant arc light was highly appreciated by the citizens. But the excitement very soon died away and very little attention was given the electrical department until the election of our present mayor, Hon. Carter H. Harrison, Jr. When

he assumed control of the city government the electrical department was immediately expanded and arc lights were extended, and to-day the arc-light department of Chicago, without question, is the best equipped department in the country.

As the number of lights increased a large number of trimmers were employed, and after thinking about how discouraging and inconvenient it was by not working in harmony with each other, it was thought best to form an organization. One afternoon in the month of August the city trimmers assembled together and organized a union, known as Local Union 49. The organization has been favored by the department. Hon. E. B. Ellicott, City Electrician, gave several of the members of Local 49 promotions. Bro. Frantz was appointed chief trimmer; he is of great assistance to the department, and also to the brothers of the union. He has looked after the welfare of the brothers in having the material placed where it will be convenient for them, and also arranged the routes so as to make it as easy as possible for the trimmer and not hinder the department. Our President, Bro. Strubbe, was selected as an assistant to the chief trimmer, and with his valuable assistance we move along as one.

Bro. Fancault was summoned to Michigan by a telegram stating the serious illness of his sister. Bro. Hixon, our highly-esteemed Treasurer, is the happiest man in town; it is a fine 10-lb. baby boy. Members of the union extend their congratulations to Bro. Hixon.

H. H. MARTIN,  
Press Secretary.

#### Local Union No. 52.

Newark, N. J., April 9, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

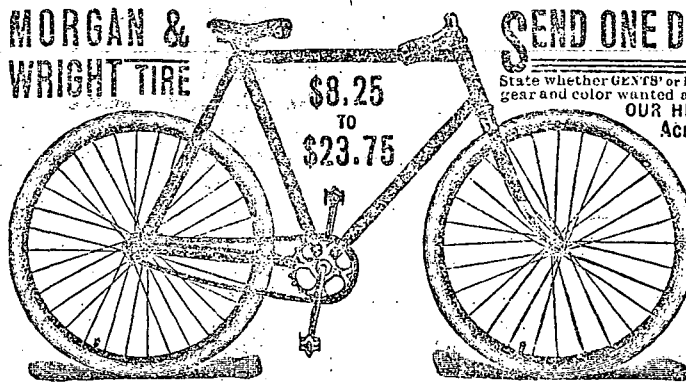
Well, here we are for the second time in the Worker. We are hustling to beat the band here, and are meeting with success by strong membership. Last month we had seventy-four lights on the circuit, and have added as many more, making a total of about 140 lamps on the line.

We held a smoker on Thursday evening, April 3rd, and invited all electrical workers to attend. We gained a few members by same and enjoyed ourselves until the early hours of morn. Various members of the Trades Council were present, and were very well pleased with the way our local was progressing. I wish to state, through the efforts of the Trades Council, a bill was killed in the assembly limiting the amount of fees in damage suits brought by workmen against their employers. Thanks to the council for same.

Business is fairly brisk in this vicinity, but there are poor chances of non-union men being employed in the shops, as we have all of them unionized.

We hear the old Westinghouse building has been refitted and is about to resume

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business here. Let us hope so, as we want to get them in line.

I am sorry to state we have had the misfortune to lose one of our members, Bro. Matthew McShane, who died from pneumonia. Bro. Blakelock is sick in the hospital, but on the road to recovery. Bros. Murphy and Burquest are about to resume work.

Hoping to have better news next time, I remain,

Faternally yours,

W. J. L.,  
Press Sec.

#### Local Union No. 56.

Erie, Pa., April, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

I have received the Worker with several answers to my letter and I am glad to know there are so many locals to send in their good words to the Worker.

Erie is arranging to do some work. The 'phone companies are going to make some changes and the M. & M. Light Co. is putting up 54 new arc lamps for the city street lighting. Brothers Hart and Jacobs are out with a gang for the Union Tel. & Tel. Co. Bro. Hart is near Youngstown, O., and Bro. Jacobs is at Girard, Pa. Brother Miller is still running a gang at New Castle, Pa.

Mr. Harry Sears has left Erie, he said he was going to Hot Springs to do some inside work.

The A. Tel. & Tel. Co. is moving its test office from 8th and State streets to 21st and State. This will save them the trouble of going in the conduit from 18th st. to 8th st.

Bro. Tom. Murry is on the sick list. He has been sick for a month or six weeks. Bro. Gives has a lame hand yet, but he has been working and getting along O. K.

At our last meeting, we received three new lights and arrangements are being made for a dance and an electrical display

about April 25th. Send your delegates.

Faternally yours,

L. E. C.,

Press Sec.

#### Local Union No. 60.

San Antonio, Tex., April 3, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Here we are again and I am pleased to again say something in favor of the progress of our local, No. 60. The city election is over and it was a warm time. We got in Bro. F. Young for city electrician and, in consequence, Bro. Young showed his appreciation to the boys by treating all the boys to a "Royal smoker," which was highly enjoyed by them. No reason in the world why they shouldn't enjoy it, as the sandwiches, of all kinds, and beer was rolled up into the hall in abundance. To have seen the cart loads of sandwiches, etc., that Bro. Young put up, one would have imagined that he intended to feed the 1st Texas. However every one had a good time.

Brothers Mally and Coleman, who have for the past twelve years been employed with the S. A. Gas and Electric power Co., were laid off last week, much to the regret of all the brothers. But they don't seem to take it very hard, as they have already gone into business for themselves. I understand they have bought all the rat traps in San Antonio and expect to send a large order to some eastern manufacturer for one hundred thousand more, as they have taken a large contract to supply the rat pit (that is soon going to open) with rats. The people of San Antonio won't be worried much longer with rats, as there won't be even the shadow of one left in this city when Bro's. Mally and Coleman have filled their contract, and it's going to be rough on the rat dogs and cats.

Bro. F. Wallace has gone to Mexico to work. We received a letter from him a

few days ago and he sent us applications for two new members. We have also applications for three new members from the city for next meeting.

Bro. Albright has been in the S. A. Infirmary very ill for the past three weeks, but he is now on the road to recovery and will be able soon to get out again and attend the meetings. The boys will all be glad to see him out.

Trusting our local shall keep on improving, I'll bring this letter to a close. Wishing success to all, I remain,

Fraternally yours,  
S. L. H.,  
Press Sec'y.

### Local Union No. 65.

Butte, Mont., March 30, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Since last heard from Local No. 65 has been progressing favorably. We are adding the names of one or more new members to our roll most every meeting. The attendance is good and the members in arrears are replenishing our treasury in a most satisfactory manner, all of which bespeaks well for the future of our local.

Business in the electric line is still dull; what few inside men there are are not working more than one-half the time, while linemen are no better off. All, however, are living in hopes of better times, and while none are possessed of an abundance of money, I know of no one who is not eating three squares a day, and if work does not hold off too long all will be in fine feather for the fray.

Our local this month loses two of its best and most highly esteemed members, W. W. Talbott and William Deimling. Bro. Talbott takes charge of a plant at Jerome, Arz.; Bro. Deimling of one at a mining camp in this state. No. 65 wishes them success in their new positions.

On February 22d, our regular meeting night, we failed to convene on account of no quorum, the first time since this local was organized, I believe; whether it was because the boys were imbued with too much patriotism or too much Tom and Jerry I know not. Be that as it may, what I wish to call attention to is the fact that our most worthy president was seen that evening by one of our most truthful members going down the street dressed in a "hard-boiled" shirt and four-ply paper collar; rumor says to call on a dear friend. That Bro. Davidson has the right to call on a "dear" friend no one will question; that he has the right to dress about as he pleases no one will gainsay, as there is a wider latitude given here as to how one shall dress; but when he walks down the street dressed only in a "hard-boiled" shirt and paper collar, when the weather is about 10 degrees below zero, it is about time this local inquired into his case. We know that "dear" friends, if

they be of the feminine gender and good looking, are liable to subject one to a momentary aberration of mind, but what we want to look after is to see that this does not become a mania with Bro. Davidson, and thereby cause the good name of our order to become a reproach.

There has been going on here for some time an agitation in favor of an eight-hour day, wages to remain the same as now. It was brought forward by the Building Trades' Council; in fact, it came somewhat as a demand by them on the different branches affiliating to adopt, and for that reason many of the trades oppose it. It looks now as though it would be agreed to, and if it is it is to take effect the first of May. What the result will be is hard to foretell.

There has been considerable complaint in the past by the editor of the Worker, as well as others, that there was not enough interest taken in the Worker by the Press Secretaries to make it a success. Now, I believe this was true, but the boys have responded nobly, and so far as they are concerned it is a "howling" success. There is one person, however, who has been overlooked in this matter, a person from whose pen the Worker should have at least one page every month, but it doesn't. One looks in vain month after month for even a line. Now, without mentioning any names, Mr. Editor, this person is yourself. I believe I voice the sentiment of every reader of the Worker when I say that you should have at least one page devoted to editorials on things pertaining to the Brotherhood, on questions of the day and labor news in general. The editor of a paper more than any other person connected with it, makes for weal or woe of that paper. They are the power behind the throne. Judging from our paper one would say that Press Secretaries and compositors were the only persons that had anything to do with it. I do not want to censure you unjustly, for I know not what other duties you have in connection, but I would like to see some part of the Worker devoted to editorials. Bro. Sherman, let us see what you can do.

When Uncle Tom, of No. 38, claims that all our social ills are caused by competition, that "we have been living in an age of competition," I beg leave to differ with him. We never have had free competition, and what I mean by free competition is, where labor has free access to the natural resources of nature. I should like him to point out one instance in this or any other country. Was it competition that bowed the necks of the millions of India beneath the yoke of many masters, and the worst of all the English? Was it competition that robbed them, even in years of abundance, of everything but a scant living, and when crops failed they died by the thousands, or was it the cruel tax-



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gathering English government? Was it competition that caused the Irish peasantry, in the eighteenth century, to go dressed in rags; live in miserable cabins and die by hundreds? Was it competition that robbed them during this century that, when the potato crop failed, they starved by thousands? Was it not the merciless, horde of rock-renting landlords who had divided the soil of Ireland as their absolute possession, regardless of the rights of the Irish people? Has it been competition that has driven the native Cuban and Filipino to rebellion time and time again? It has been said that every foot of soil in Cuba is owned by some landlord, and what does that mean? It means that every Cuban born into this world with only his two hands as his property and support will be compelled to apply to some landlord for a permission to work, and whether what he receives will be much or little will depend on the kind of a landlord he deals with. And so it is the world over; look where you will and when you will in centuries past, when work was carried on by hand in the most primitive manner, or at the present day, when it is carried on by machinery by large aggregations of capital. No, Bro. Tom, it is not competition, but a monopoly possessed by some of the natural resources of nature, unjust laws and "protective tariffs." I believe, however, that all public utilities where competition is eliminated should be operated by the government or by the people themselves.

Respectfully yours,

C. S. R.

#### Local Union No. 69.

Dallas, Tex., 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

It is getting time for a few lines to our valuable paper. Well, we have been adding a few lights to our circuit; we have initiated 9 new members. All members are working at present and a good show to hold all together. Well, we have got two brothers here from Local No. 23 of St. Paul, Minn., Brothers G. R. Fulton and H. T. Robeson, and they are liked by all the boys of this Local.

I will call attention of the brothers next to a lineman, by name, Charley Anderson, who got as low as a lineman could in my estimation; he could not find anything else to scab on and he went and scabbed on the street car motormen of Dallas, during the street car strike in this town. And we have got a foreman who was initiated last July, and our financial secretary stood good for his initiation, and furthermore he put said Chas. Anderson to work the other day, and he is pretty well known; and here goes his name—W. C. Ure, of New Orleans; and if he ever leaves Dallas I would like to see all Union men give him the cold shoulder for I am sure he will get

it in Dallas. Well, as I am not overloaded with news, I will ring off at present.

Sincerely,

S. T. W.

Press Sec'y.

#### Local Union No. 72.

Waco, Tex., April 5, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

The long talked-of Independent Telephone Company is at work at last. They have been setting poles for two weeks, and they have been putting them up during a storm. They have Nick Rousaw, of Chicago, for general foreman; also J. W. Kane, from No. 3, running a gang. So, boys, you can guess about how things are going. Every member is a reception committee, and we are not very long finding out who they are. We have had two try and work in, but their work is rather too coarse. We have not succeeded in getting the new company to signing an agreement yet, but think we will succeed all O. K. The superintendent said, when our committee called on him, that he was capable of running his business without anybody's help, but I think we will be able to convince him that he is very much wrong. They are wanting men very bad. They have five or six now. They are paying \$2.00 per day. They have been reporting that they were going to pay \$2.25, but I learn they don't intend paying more if they can help it.

E. P. MCBROOM,

Press Secretary.

#### A Chief Electrician Favors License.

St. Louis, March 30, 1899.

Mr. Editor:

Enclosed please find letter which is an answer to a letter (enclosing article of March "Worker" entitled "Electrical Inspection and Examination, and Examination Card carried by St. Louis Journeymen Wiremen), written by me to Capt. Brophy, kindly asking his views upon our examination, etc.

Capt. Wm. Brophy is without doubt the most prominent representative of electrical inspection in the world.

The value to skilled electrical workers of such influence is beyond calculation. A letter of this kind from a man of such acknowledged ability should effectively shame any who oppose the bettering of the condition of our craft.

P. C. FISH.

Boston, March 25, 1899.

P. C. Fish, Esq.,

Dear Sir—Owing to the fact that your letter was misdirected, I did not receive it until this morning. I took notice of the contents thereof in which you say that the American Electrician states that I would read in September before the National Association of Municipal Electricians, a paper upon the licensing of employees en-

gaged in electrical work, and the improvement of the quality of work and material. You say that skilled electrical workers recognize the necessity of licensing their craft, and men of prominence who advocate such a matter receive their warmest thanks.

I would say that your first statement is true. I am to prepare and read such a paper in September next, and will try to do the subject justice, for there is not a man living who is so deeply impressed with the necessity of licensing competent men to do electrical work, as my daily avocation brings me in contact with competent men, and unfortunately with a large number of incompetent men who are engaged in the business. The latter class not only injure the competent men and keep the rate of remuneration they receive at a low figure, but they add to the fire hazard and the hazard of life every day they remain in the business. I trust that I shall deserve the thanks of every man engaged in the business who desires to see the condition of the craft improved. It is true, as you say, that politics and other causes have up to the present time prevented the licensing of electrical workers, not only in your city but in very many others, but I hope to see the day when they will fail to continue an effective opposition to this plan. The first step has been taken in this state towards licensing men in the electrical business through the bill just introduced, providing for the inspection of electric wires and appliances in all the towns of the state of Massachusetts. Such inspectors will be obliged to pass an examination, before being permitted to assume their office. Should this bill pass, and I believe it will, our next step will be to compel the compulsory licensing of all men engaged in electrical work. Wishing you every success in your laudable undertaking in St. Louis, I am,

Yours very truly,

WM. BROPHY,

Chief Elec.

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## Directory of Unions.

Secretaries will please furnish the necessary information to make this directory complete. Note that the time and place of meeting, the name of the President, the names and addresses of the recording and financial Secretaries are required.

**No. 1, St. Louis, Mo.**—Meets every Monday at 604 Market st. Pres., C. W. Campbell, 3646 California av.; R. S. Paul Ettinger, 1525 N. 12th st.; F. S., P. C. Fish, 1927 N. 15th st.

**No. 2, Kansas City, Mo.**—

**No. 3, St. Louis, Mo.**—Meets every Thursday at 604 Market st. Pres., W. M. McCoy, 16 S. 17th st.; R. S., J. O'Brien, 1011 N. Leffingwell av.; F. S., Frank Pierpont, 3323 Manchester av.

**No. 4, New Orleans, La.**—Meets 1st and 3d Tuesdays at Carondelet and Perdido sts. Pres., C. D. Hatt, 928 Common st.; F. S., Jas. J. Sullivan, 1519 Pryoroma st.; R. S., Chas. Elmore, 1326 South Rampart st.

**No. 5, Pittsburg, Pa.**—Meets every Friday night in Schermer Bldg., cor. Water and Market sts. Pres., H. H. Haas, Oak Station P. O., Pittsburg; R. S., Frank Lunney, 301 Robinson st., Allegheny City; F. S., F. G. Randolph, 805 Walnut st., Station D, Wilkensburg, Pa.

**No. 6, San Francisco, Cal.**—Meets 2d and 4th Wednesdays at Foresters' Hall, 20 Eddy st. Pres., J. J. Cameron, 283 Clementina st.; R. S., A. A. Whitfield, 632 Natoma st.; F. S., R. P. Gale, 1210 Broadway st.

**No. 7, Springfield, Mass.**—Meets every Wednesday at room 14 Barnes Bldg. Pres., G. T. McGilvray, 30 Bease Pl.; R. S., T. J. Lynch, Chicopee Falls, Mass.; F. S., M. Farrell, 59 Broad st.

**No. 8, Toledo, O.**—Meets every Monday at Friendship Hall. Pres., C. W. Schausten, 1846 Ontario st.; R. S., J. J. Duck, 701 South st.; F. S., F. M. Gensbecher, 713 Colburn st.

**No. 9, Chicago, Ill.**—Meets every Saturday at 105 E. Randolph st. Pres., W. A. Jackson, Eng. Co. 16, 31st and Dearborn sts.; R. S., J. E. Folling, 922 W. 53rd st.; F. S., J. Driscoll, 77 Fuller st.

**No. 10, Indianapolis, Ind.**—Meets every Monday at Mozart Hall, 39 S. Del. st. Pres., John Berry, care Indus. Fire Dept.; R. S., Geo. R. Beecher, 813 N. Senate av.; F. S., C. J. Langdon, 301 West Pratt st.

**No. 12, Greater New York**—Pres., W. W. Vaughan, 9 Nassau st., Brooklyn; R. S., Chas. L. Rogers, 134½ Kosciuszko st., Brooklyn; F. S., F. G. Oth, 334 First st., Brooklyn.

**No. 17, Detroit, Mich.**—Meets every Tuesday night at No. 9 Cadillac sq. Pres., R. Scalan, 90 Porter st.; R. S., G. H. Brown, 50 Chester av.; F. S., T. Forbes, 1164 13th st.

**No. 18, Kansas City, Mo.**—Meets every Friday night, Labor hqrs., 1117 Walnut st. Pres., H. 935 Oswald st., K. C., Kan.; R. S., F. J. Schadel, 612 Wall st., K. C., Mo.; F. S., C. C. Drollinger, 613 Delaware st., K. C., Mo.

**No. 19, Atchison, Kan.**—Pres., F. J. Roth, 906 N. Tenth st.; R. S., H. G. Wickersham; F. S., R. E. Easton, 600 Conil st.

**No. 22, Omaha, Neb.**—Meets every Wednesday at Labor Temple, 17th & Douglas sts. Pres., W. P. Leedom, 2020 Grave st.; R. S., H. G. Reipe, Klondyke Hotel; F. S., M. J. Curran, 617 S. 16th st.

**No. 23, St. Paul, Minn.**—Pres., J. H. Roadhouse, 150 Sherburne av.; R. S., W. B. Tubbesing, 497 Martin st.; F. S., A. H. Garrett, 201 S. 6th st.

**No. 24, Minneapolis, Minn.**—Pres., O. R. Shortall; R. S., W. I. Greywood, 16 E. 26th st.; F. S., P. H. C. Wood, 273 Tremont av. S.

**No. 25, Louisville, Ky.**—Pres., John Sales; R. S., McGonigale Miller, care Union Hall, 516 5th st.

**No. 26, Washington, D. C.**—Meets every Saturday at 628 Louisiana av. Pres., John Hoffecker, 1007 N. Carolina av. S. E.; R. S., J. C. O'Connell, 930 E. st., N. W.; F. S., G. A. Malone, 48 E. st., N. W.

**No. 27, Baltimore, Md.**—Meets every Monday at Hall cor. Fayette and Park avs. Pres., W. W. Welsh, 1420 Aisquith st.; R. S., Wm. F. Kelly, 405 E. Lanvale st.; F. S., F. H. Russell, 1408 Aisquith st.

**No. 30, Cincinnati, O.**—Meets 1st and 3d Mondays at 136 E. Court st. Pres., Wm. Williams, 1315 Broadway; R. S., Wm. Price, 1046 Celestial st., Mt. Auburn City; F. S., Geo. R. Hildebrand, 403 E. 3rd st., Cincinnati, Ohio.

**No. 31, Anaconda, Mont.**—Pres., Thos. Dwyer, care Elect. Light Co.; R. S., J. F. Reed; F. S., Chas. McDonald, Carroll, Mont.

**No. 32, Lima, O.**—Pres., O. G. Snyder, 812 High st.; R. S., W. C. Holmes, 110 Hamilton ave., Lima, Ohio; F. S., Wm. R. Kravis, 213 E. Wayne st.

**No. 35, Boston, Mass.**—Meets every Wednesday at 45 Bennett st. Pres., T. R. Melville, 21 Northup st., Charlestown, Mass.; R. S., J. B. Jeffers, 27 McLean st.; F. S., W. C. Woodward, 10 Church st.

**No. 36, Sacramento, Cal.**—Meets 1st and 3d Tuesdays at Foresters' Hall. Pres., Chas. M. Durkee, 624 G-st.; R. S., William F. Morley, 529½ K st.; F. S., F. O. Hutton, 1617 M st.

**No. 37, Hartford, Conn.**—Meets every Wednesday at 603 Main st. Pres., W. H. Crawley, 23 Spring st.; R. S., M. P. Sullivan, 177 Asylum st.; F. S., J. J. Tracy, 58 Temple st.

**No. 38, Cleveland, O.**—Meets every Wednesday night at 356 Ontario st. Pres., Geo. H. Gleason, 110 Maple st.; R. S., R. M. Ross, 59 Colgate st.; F. S., A. Herzon, 4 Wallace st.

**No. 40, St. Joseph, Mo.**—Meets every Thursday night at Brokaw Hall, 3th and Locust sts. Pres., Frank E. Clair, R'y Co.; R. S., Wm. T. Dorsel, R'y Co.; F. S., J. C. Schneider, City Mkt. St. Co.

**No. 41, Buffalo, N. Y.**—Meets every Wednesday at Council Hall. Pres., Jas. A. Burgess, 559 Frost av.; R. S., Geo. W. Bass, 169 Vermont st.; F. S., H. M. Scott, 563 N. Morgan st.

**No. 42, Utica, N. Y.**—Pres., W. T. Carter, 68 Neilson st.; R. S., C. O. Carter, 26 Elm st.; F. S., P. Danaher, 210 Blandina st.

**No. 43, Syracuse, N. Y.**—Meets 1st and 3d Tuesdays at McCarthy's Hall, Market st., opp. City Hall. Pres., A. Donovan, 310 Niagara st.; R. S., F. N. Stiles, 734 E. R. K. St.; F. S., Wm. H. Gough, 108 Hawthorne st.

**No. 44, Rochester, N. Y.**—Meets 2d and 4th Wednesdays at Odd Fellows' Hall, State st. Pres., J. P. Wolff, 9 Cedar st.; R. S., A. L. Denniston, 14 Baldwin st.; F. S., Fred Martin, 50 Champlain st.

**No. 45, Buffalo, N. Y.**—Meets 1st and 3d Saturdays at Council Hall. Pres., F. Devlin, 711 Virginia st.; R. S., J. Dingbaum; F. S., M. E. Stable, 46 Kail st.

**No. 46, Lowell, Mass.**—Meets every Thursday at 202 Merrimack st., 3d floor, room 5. Pres., Herbert L. Whitely, 6 Puffer av.; R. S., Jas. Barrett, 17 First st.; F. S., H. F. Harding, 38 E. Pine st.

**No. 47, Worcester, Mass.**—Meets every Wednesday evening at 306 Main st. Pres., S. A. Stout, 130 Austin st.; F. S., V. Reed, 61 Myrtle st.; F. S., Chas. C. Coglin, 113 West st.

**No. 48, Decatur, Ill.**—Meets at Cigarmakers' Hall, E. Main st. Pres., J. B. Muenix, 611 Spring st.; F. S., F. E. Aldrich, 115 Wood st.

**No. 49, Chicago, Ill.**—Meets every Second and Fourth Tuesday at Jungs Hall 106 E. Randolph st. Pres., F. J. Struble, 40 W. Division st.; R. S., Walter J. Dempsey, 153 Throop st.; F. S., Chas. Fowler, 210 W. Congress st.

**No. 52, Newark, N. J.**—Pres., J. H. Thomas, 346 W. 59th st., N. Y. City; R. S., W. S. Harrington, 24 Willow st., Bloomfield N. J.; F. S., Rd. Blakelock, 7 Linden st., Newark, N. J.

**No. 53, Harrisburg, Pa.**—Pres., C. A. Swager, 15½ Market st.; R. S., Jas. Euminger, 25 N. 15th st.; F. S., C. Anderson, 46 Summit st.

**No. 55, Des Moines, Ia.**—Meets every Thursday night at Trades Assembly Hall. Pres., J. Fitzgerald, 1924 Siner st.; R. S., C. C. Ford, 715 Scott st.; F. S., M. O. Tracey, 212 Raceou st.

**No. 56, Erie, Pa.**—Meets 1st and 3d Wednesdays. Pres., P. Jacobs, 161 East 7th st.; R. S., L. E. Caisou, 303 Peach st.; F. S., J. P. St. Clair, 711 French st.

**No. 57, Salt Lake City, Utah.**—Pres., J. R. Blair, 258 S. 2nd East st.; R. S., J. Hodgson, Utah Power House; F. S., A. W. Scott, Valley House.

**No. 60, San Antonio, Tex.**—Meets 1st and 3d Saturdays at 8 p. m. in Painters' Hall, 151 Soldad st. Pres., Martin Wright, 114 Romaina st.; R. S., A. C. Larum, 116 Nebraska st.; F. S., Chas. E. McNeemar, 318 Av. D.

**No. 61, Los Angeles, Cal.**—Pres., P. Buchanan, 357 N. Main st.; R. S., W. A. Woods, Box 84 Station B; F. S., S. I. Brose, 441 Colyton st.

**No. 62, Troy, N. Y.**—F. S., M. J. Keyes, No. 3 Short 7th st.

**No. 63, Warren, Pa.**—Meets 1st and 3d Wednesdays at D. O. H. Hall, cor. 2d and Liberty sts. Pres., F. W. Lesser, Liberty st.; R. S., R. Y. Eden, Revere House; F. S., N. H. Spencer, Rogers Bldg.

**No. 65, Butte, Mont.**—Meets 2d and 4th Wednesdays in Good Templars' Hall. Pres., Jas. Davidson, 119 Owsley Bldg.; R. S., W. C. Medhurst, P. O. Box 846; F. S., E. M. DeMers, P. O. Box 846.

**No. 66, Houston, Tex.**—Meets 1st and 3d Mondays. Pres., Geo. O. Wood, 1203 Capital av.; R. S., W. P. Johnson, Telephone Office; F. S., W. P. Caywood, 1413 Franklin av.

**No. 67, Quincy, Ill.**—Meets 2d and 4th Wednesdays at Trades Assembly Hall, S. 8th st. Pres., J. H. Nessler, 325 Maiden Lane st.; J. M. Redmond, 525 Jersey st.; R. S., C. R. McNemee, 511 S. 7th st.

**No. 68, Denver, Col.**—Meets Monday nights at 1731 Arapaho st., Club Bldg.; Pres., P. Fleeger, 1931 Penn av.; R. S., F. Warner, 1110 Saramar st.; F. S., C. W. Armstrong, 634 30th av.

**No. 69, Dallas, Tex.**—Meets every Tuesday evening at Labor Hall. Pres., P. F. Barnes, 147 Akark st.; R. S., C. E. Boston, 438 Main st.; F. S., C. T. Wheeler, 438 Main st.

**No. 70, Springfield, Ill.**—Meets 1st and 3d Thursdays, Carpenters' Hall, S. 4th st. Pres., Fred Miller, Staley Hotel; R. S., Chas. Danilson, 1112 E. Jackson st.; F. S., S. Phillips, 842 N. 3d st.

**No. 71, Galveston, Tex.**—Meets 2d and 4th Thursdays, Cooks and Waiters' Hall, 23d st., between Market and Mechanic. Pres., J. F. Payne, 1528 22d st.; R. S., D. L. Coble, 3320 R. 1/2 st.; F. S., W. F. Cuning, 2122 Ave. P. 1/2.

**No. 72, Waco, Tex.**—Meets 2d and 4th Wednesdays at Labor Hall. Pres., J. E. Caple, 1018 N. 7th st.; R. S., W. D. Harold, 1801 Heiring av.; F. S., Joseph Hodges, 728 S. 6th st.

**No. 73, Spokane, Wash.**—Meets 1st and 3d Wednesdays in K. of P. Hall, 816 Riverside av. Pres., Eli Hensley, 218 Riverside av.; R. S., L. Van Inwegen, 919 Ash st.; F. S., D. L. Lamer, 320 Fifth av.

**No. 74, Winona, Minn.**—Pres., H. B. Klein, 510 Olmstead st.; R. S., Dan Bahner, 161 Harvester av.; F. S., Joseph Trautner, 620 E. 3rd st.

**No. 75, Grand Rapids, Mich.**—Meets 1st and 3d Sundays. Pres., Jos. Newman, 16 Kennedy st.; R. S., C. M. Bun, 190 Sheldon st.; F. S., C. E. Post, 132 Winter st.

**No. 76, Tacoma, Wash.**—Pres., Wm. Kane, 1136 D st.; R. S., W. J. Love, 113 10th st.; F. S., Jas. Murray, 1118 D st.

**No. 77, Seattle, Wash.**—Pres., J. J. Maitland, 231 Pontius av.; R. S., S. Curkeek; F. S., J. J. Jenkins, 1319 14th av.

**No. 78, Chicago, Ill.**—Pres., W. J. McCormick, 720½ St. Lawrence ave.; F. S., George H. Holtz, 351 W. Adams st.; R. S., W. T. Tonner, 1479 Ohio st.

